THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 2082.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1867.

THREEPENCE Stamped Edition, 4d.

IJNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.— The SESSION of the FACULTY of MEDICINE will COM-MENCE on TUESDAY, October 1st. Introductory Lecture, by Professor GRAILY HEWITT, M.D., at 4 P.M.

The SESSION of the FACULTY of ARTS and LAWS will BEGIN on WEDNESDAY, October 2nd. Introductory Lecture, by Professor HENRY MORLEY, at 3 P.M.

The EVENING CLASSES for Classics, Modern Languages, Mathematics, the Natural Sciences, Law, &c., will COMMENCE on MONDAY, October 14th.

The SCHOOL, for boys between the ages of seven and sixteen, will RE-OPEN on TUESDAY, September 24th.

will RE-OPEN on TUESDAY, September 24th.
Prospectuses of the various Departments of the College, containing full information respecting Classes, Fees, Days and Hours of Attendance, &c., and Copies of the Regulations relating to the Entrance and other Exhibitions. Scholarships, and Prizes open to competition by Students of the several Faculties, may be obtained at the Office of the College, on application, either personal The College is very near the Gower street Station of the Metrophitan Railway, and within a few minutes walk of the termin of the North-Western, Midland, and Great Northern Railways.

August, 1867.

NIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—
FACULTY OF MEDICINE.
The SESSION 1867-88 will PEGIN on TUESDAY, October 1st, when the Introductory Lecture will be delivered, by Professor GRAILY HEWITT, M.D., Fellow of the College, at 4 F.M. Prospectuses, containing full information respecting the Classes, Fees, Scholarships, Exhibitions, &c., may be obtained on application, either personal or by letter, at the Office of the College, Gower-street, London, W.C.
The Examinations for the three Entrance-Exhibitions, of the value of 3d., 3d. and 1d. respectively, each tenable for two years, intention to compete must be sent to the Secretary on or before the 34th inst.
WILSON FOX. M.D., Dean of the Pagultz.

WILSON FOX, M.D., Dean of the Faculty,
JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.
September 12, 1867.

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—The PHOTOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT will be RE-OPENED for the admission of PRIVATE STUDENTS on and after October 9th.—For terms, &c., apply to Gzo. Dawsox, M.A., Lecturer.

R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

ECTURES on MINERALOGY and GEO-EUTURES on MINERALOGY and GEO-LJ LOGY at KING'S COLLEGE, London, are given on Wednesday and Friday Mornings, from 9 to 10, by Frofessor TRNAWF GLO. Those on Mineralogy begin Friday, October 18 N. A.W. Fids. Those on Mineralogy begin Friday, October commence in January and continue till June. A shorter Course of Lectures on Mineralogy and Geology is delivered on Thursday Evenings, from 8 till 9. These begin on October 10th, and termi-nate at Easter. Fee, it. It. 2 d. Frofessor Tennata accompanies and the state of the State of State of State of State of State interest in the country.

ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES,
The Seventeenth Session will commence on MONDAX, the
7th October.—Frespectures of the Course of Study may be had
on application to the Registrar.
TRENHAM REEKS, Registrar.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—The INTRODUCTORY LECTURE will be given by Mr. HOLMES, on TUESDAY, October 1st, at 2 r.m.—House-Physicians and House-Surgeons are selected from the Perpetual Pupils according to merit. The paid offices of Curstor, Registrars, Demonstrator and Obstetric Assistant are offered for competition annually. Perpetual Pupil's Fee, 106 Guineas.

ROYAL ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.
NOTICE.

The LIBRARY and OFFICES of the Institute have been REMOVED to No. 16, NEW BURLINGTON-STREET, W., where the Monthly Meetings will henceforth be held, and whither all Communications should be addressed to the care of the Sceretary. 16, New Burlington-street, W. 21st Sept. 1867.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK. President-Sir R. KANE, M.D. F.R.S. Vice-President-JOHN RYALL, LL.D.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE. - SESSION 1867-68.

Anatomy and Physiology; Practical Anatomy—J. H. Corbett,
Professors.

Anatomy and Physiology; Practical Anatomy—J. H. Corbett,
Practice of Medicine—D. C. O'Comoor, A. B. M.D.
Franctice of Medicine—D. K. Tanner, M.D. F. and L.R.C.S. I.
Materis Medicine—Purceil O'L anaber, M.D. F. and L.R.C.S. I.
Materis Medicine—Purceil O'L anaber, M.D. F. B.S.
Midwifery—J. R. Harrey, A.B. M.D.
Midwifery—J. R. Harrey, A.B. M.D.
Komistry; Practical Chemistry—I. Blyth, M.D.
Zoology; Botany—Joseph Reny Greene, A.B. M.D.
Modern Languages—R. De Vériour, M.A.
Logio—deo, Sidney Read, A.M.
The MEDICAL SESSION will be accepted.

The MEDICAL SESSION will be opened, and the Lectures will commence, on the 4th of NOVEMBER. The Course of Practical Anatomy will be conducted under the direction of the Professor of Anatomy and Physiology, assisted by Drs. Shinkwin and Jones, Demonstrator, and Jones, and Jones are the Professor of the Professor

Allstony and Paysondy assets become a compared to Students in Demonstrator, thus: —Two Junior Scholarships of 284, each to Students and Scholarships of 284, each to Students Students and Students and

ROYAL SCHOOL of NAVAL ARCHITEC-TURE and MARINE ENGINEERING, SOUTH KENSINGTON.
This SCHOOL will RE-DED on the lat of November next.—Application for information as to atomission, &c., should be made to the Secretary, Science and Art Department, South Ken-sington Museum, London, W.
By order of the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education.

UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH. - The SESSION will commence on MONDAY, November 4th, 1867. Full details as to Classes, Examinations, Degrees, &c. in the Faculties of Arts, Divinity, Law, and Medicine, together with a List of the General Council, will be found in 'The Edinburgh University Calendar,' 1867-8, published by Messrs, Maclachan & Stewart, South Bridge, Edinburgh, price 2s. 6d.; per post 2s. 10d. PHILIT Order of the Senatus,

PHILIT Order of the Senatus,
September, 1867.

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The Addresses on Medical Science and Education, delivered at the School by Professor Owen, Professor Huxley, the Archbishop of York, and Dr. Addressor, President of the College of Physicians, are published with the Prospectus of St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, and may be had on application to Enxist Harr, Esq., Dean of the School.

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MORNING CLASSES, 41, FITZROY-SQUARE.
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MISS MARY LEECH'S MORNING SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES will RE-OPEN MONDAY, October 1st.—14, Radnor-place, Gloucester-square, W.

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HOLLAND COLLEGE for LADIES,
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R. Blagrove, Esq., Mme. Alex. Newton, A. Taylor, Esq., E. Lichardson, Esq., Belejene Revers, Esq., G. D. Wood, Esq., Professor
Fepper, Dr. Heimann, Mons. Dupont, Sig. Pepoli, Mons. Delferier.
The Lecture, Concert, and Class rooms are 73 feet en suite.
The Term commenced 18th of September.

BRADFIELD.—ST. ANDREW'S COL-LEGE, BRADFIELD, near READING. For information apply to the Warden at the College, or to the Honorary Secretary, J. H. Partison, Esq., at his Chambers, I, Elm-court, Middle Temple, London.

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WESTON SUPER MARE.—Two LADIES, Daughters of an Officer, who have had great experience in TUITION, and occupying a very good house in the best part of this famed Watering-place, receive a few YUUNG LADIES for EDUCATION. The Principals devote themselves to the moral and intellectual training of their Pupils. A Parisian Governess resides in the bouse, and the various Accomplishments are taught by eminent Professors from Bath and tifted. The best references can be given. The WINTER UJARTER WII COM MEXCE October 19th.—Address A.B., Tavistock House, South-road.

FDITOR or SUB-EDITOR.—A Gentleman, of many years' experience on the London and Provincial Daily and Weekly Press, desires a suitable APPOINTMENT on a Liberal or Neutral Journal.—S. L., 3, Potter Newton, near Leeds.

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TO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS and PRINTERS.—WANTED, by a Man with good London experience, a SITUATION as SUB-EDITOR and PRACTICAL MANAGER of the Printing Department of a Newspaper.—ALPHA, W. Glover, 4, Symond's Inn, Chancery-lane.

A GENTLEMAN, thoroughly acquainted with the Library of the British Museum, and having considerable Literary experience, would be happy to undertake any kind of WORK for INTENDING AUTHORS or PUBLISHERS.—Apply to B. A., 128, Rotherfield-street, Islington.

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DUTIES in an old-established Publishing and Wholesale Bookselling Business, &c. The Returns can be increased to nearly
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A CIVIL SERVICE CLERK WANTS EVENING WORK.-R. H. BEAUMONT, 77, Windsor-road, Upper Holloway.

FINE ARTS.—An ARTIST of Reputation and Experience as a Master, resident at Oxford, having a large Studio, with every facility to instruct Professional Pupils in a practical knowledge of Painting and Drawing, in all its branches, and Sculpture, has a VACANCY FOR A TUPIL, who can reside with his Family, if required, Several of his Pupils taken, their Degree, whilst acquiring a proficiency in the Artz.—For further particulars apply to A.B., Messra, Rose & Slatter, Booksellers, Habs-street, Vasford; or Messra Winaca Co., Artists Colournen, 38, Rathbone-place, London.—References strength

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THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL. —The WINTER SESSION for 1867-8 will be OPENED on TUESDAY, October 1st, at 3 o'clock, with an INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS by Dr. T. S. COBBOLD, F.R.S.

Lectures for Winter Term

Medicine—Dr. Murchisen, F.R.S.
Surgery—Mr. Shaw and Mr. De Morgan, F.R.S.
Physiology—Dr. Sanderson, F.R.S. and Mr. Hulke, F.R.S.
Anatomy—Dr. R. Liveing, M.A. Cantab.
Chemistry—Mr. Taylor and Mr. Heisch.
Pathological Anatomy—Dr. Cayley and Mr. Sibley.
Operative Surgery—Mr. Nunn.
Anatoms—Dr. Goodfellow, Dr. Thompson, Dr. Murchison, F.R.S.
Physician—Dr. J. Hall Dur, J. Hall Carlor, F.R.S., Dr.
Sasistan-Physician—Dr. Greenhow, Dr. Sanderson, F.R.S., Dr.
R. Liveing, M.A. Centab.
Surgeons—Mr. Shaw, Mr. D. Morgan, F.R.S., Mr. Moore, Mr. Nunn.

Surgeons—Mr. Shaw, Mr. D. Saves—Munn. Nunn. Assistant-Surgeons—Mr. Hulke, F.R.S., Mr. Lawson

Assistant-Surgeons—Mr. Hulke, F.R.S., Mr. Lawson.
The Hospital contains 305 beds, and there are special departments for cuncer 35 beds, and for diseases of the eye and teeth, diseases of women and children, and sphilis.
Three Clinical Prizes, including the Governor's Prize of Twenty Guineas, will be awarded to those Students who shall pass the most satisfactory examination at the bedside and in the postmortem room. Class Prizes will also be given. There are also valuable rewards in the form of Five Resident Clinical appointments.

valuable rewards in the sorth of a few of charge, of the dally inments.
Student of the College Tutor, and thus avoid the necessity of any
private teaching apart from that of the Medical School.
General Fee for attendance at the Hospital Practice and Lectures required by the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons and
the Society of Apotheonies, 904., which may be paid by instalments.

ments.
Further information may be obtained on application to the Dean, to Mr. De Morgan, Treasurer, or to the Resident Medical Officer.
C. MURCHISON, M.D. F.R.S., Dean.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK. MATRICULATION and SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATIONS

MATRICULATION and SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATIONS.

On TUESDAY, the 18th of OCTOEER NEXT, at 10 o'clock a.m., an EXAMINATION will be held for the Matriculation of Stadents in the Faculties of ARR, MEDICINE and LAW, and ations for Scholarships will commence on Thursday, the 17th of October. The Council have the power of conferring at these Examinations Eight Senior Scholarships of the value of 40c. each, viz., Seven in the Faculty of Arts, and One in the Faculty of Law, and Forty-six Junior Scholarships, viz., Fifteen in Literature and Fifteen in Science, of the value of 30c. each; I eight in Medicine, of the value of 20c. each; to Fifteen of which First Year's Students are eligible.

Prospectuses, containing full information as to the Subjects of the Examinations, &c., may be had on application to the Registrar.

By Order of the President.

ROBERT J. KENNY, Registrar.

TOUCATION.—No FAILURES.—All the Four Candidates from ROXBURGH HOUSE SCHOOL, Barnshury, passed the last Oxford Local Examination in the Senior Division. At the last three Cambridge, the last tile Condidates the last College of Proceptors Examinations, at the Condidates the Local Condidates of Proceptors Examinations, at the Condidates the Condidates of Expansed, several with Honours and Prizes. No failures whatever.—Address Mr. C. P. Nevconer, 16, Barnsbury-villas, N.

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UNITED COLLEGE OF ST. SALVATOR AND ST. LEONARD.

The CLASSES in the United College will be OPENED on TUESDAY, the 5th of November, at Two o'clock, when Principal FORBES will deliver an Introductory Address.

Principal.

JAMES DAVID FORBES, D.C.L. LL.D. and F.R.SS.L. & E.

JAMES DAVID FORBES, D.C.L. Li.D. and F.R.SS.L. & E. First or Junior Humanity—Professor Shairp—Daily at 13, and Tureday and Thureday at 16.

Tureday and Thureday at 16.

The John Shairp—Mon., Wed., and Fri., at 11.

Third Humanity—Professor Shairp—Mon., Wed., and Fri., at 11.

Second Greek—Professor Campbell—Daily at 10.

Second Mathematics—Professor Fischer—Daily at 11.

Second Mathematics—Professor Fischer—Daily at 12.

First or Junior Mathematics—Professor Fischer—Daily at 12.

Second Mathematics—Professor Fischer—Daily at 12.

Record and English Literature—Professor Baynes—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 10.

Logic and Metaphysics—Professor Baynes—Daily at 12.

Record and English Literature—Professor Baynes—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 10.

Logic and Metaphysics—Professor Finit—Tues, and Thurs. at 3.

Natural Finitesphy—Professor Finit—Tues, and Thurs. at 2.

Chemistry with its Application to Aris—Professor Heddle—Daily at 11.

Tues, and Wed. at 3.

Physiology—Professor Macdonald—Daily at 10.

Civil History—Professor Macdonald—Daily at 10.

Civil History—Professor Macdonald—Tues, and Thurs. at 9.

BURSARIES.

BURSARIES.

The following Bursaries will be Competed for on Friday, the lat, and Saturday, the 2nd November:—FOUR FOUNIATION (id. each); The MAXWELL CIL!, ONE GRAY 1001; The ABURSARY of 301, open to Students entering the Second Year's Classes. All Bursars must attend at least Two Classes and

PRIZES.

To be awarded during, or at the close of, the Session: —MILLER PRIZES, for Students of the lst, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Year; GRAY PRIZE, CARSTAIR MATHEMATICAL PRIZES, DUNCAN MATHEMATICAL PRIZE, BRUCE LOGIC PRIZE.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

A RAMSAY SCHOLARSHIPS.

A RAMSAY SCHOLARSHIP will be awarded in November, 1867; a GUTHRIE SCHOLARSHIP in May, 1883; and a BRUCE SCHOLARSHIP also, in April, 1868.

Particulars as to the Prizes and Scholarships, and also as to Bursaries now Vacant, and in the hands of Private Patrons, will be found in the United Patrons, will be found in the United College.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE.

This COLLEGE will be OPENED by an ADDRESS from the PRINCIPAL, on MONDAY, the 18th of November, at Twelve

Principal-The Very Rev. JOHN TULLOCH, D.D.

Systematic Theology—Principal Tulloch & unior daily at 94, Divinity and Biblical Criticism—Professor Brown—Buily at 12, Divinity and Church History—Professor Brown—Buily at 12, Hebrew and Oriental Languages—Professor | Junior daily at 11, Mitchell

BURSARIES.
following BURSARIES will be competed for on Friday, the 18th November:— TWO FOUNDATION (101. each). The WEMYSS BURSARY (251.)

PRIZES.
CHANCELLOR'S PRIZE, COOK and MACFARLAN TESTIMONIAL, GRAY PRIZE (see the Calendar).
For PRESENTATION BURSARIES (see the Calendar).

RECTOR'S PRIZE.

Open to Students of both Colleges. 25l. for an ESSAY on 'The Logical and Psychological Questions involved in the Controversy between Nominalism and Realism.' For particulars see Calendar.

Before entering the Classes, every Student must Matriculate with the Registrar of the University, at the Library. The Company of the University of the Library of the Company of the Compa

ST. LEONARD'S COLLEGE HALL, ST. ANDREWS.

WINTER SESSION 1967-69.

Principal Forbes. Professor Shairp. Professor Fischer. Lieut.-Gen. Moncrieff.

J. Whyte Melville, Esq., of Mount Melville. A. K. Lindesay, Esq. Patrick Anderson, Esq.

Lieut.-Gen. Monerieff. Patrick Anderson, Eq.
This HALL, established in 1881 for the reception of Students attending the University of St. Andrews, will be RE-OPENED on MONDAY, 4th November.
The internal arrangements and tuition are under the direction of the Warden, with such assistance as may be required.
The Terms for the Winter Session of Five and a Half Months are 66t and 7c., according to accommodation.
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St. Andrews, August, 1867.

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LITERATURE

Programme of the Social Science Congress at Belfast, 1867.

THE eleventh Annual Meeting of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science opened its sittings on Wednesday evening, at Belfast, with an address from Lord Dufferin, President for the year.

This Association—which has for its object "to aid the development of social science, to spread a knowledge of jurisprudence, and to guide the public mind to the best practical means of promoting the advancement of education, the prevention and repression of crime, the reformation of criminals, and the adoption of sanitary regulations"—is formed upon the model of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. It differs, however, from the British Association, since the National Association is the representative of sciences

which have yet to be discovered. That a social science may yet be deve-loped—a science that shall lay down the laws according to which that complex thing we call society, and every form of it, is governed—is not certainly beyond the bounds of possibility, with the advances that have already been made towards it; but to imagine that materials exist for such a science at the present day is to be very much in advance of the facts of the case, and to realize but dimly what science is. Moreover, there are peculiar difficulties in the way, which, though not absent from other sciences, do not come so prominently forward in them as they do in social science. The prejudices of people are enlisted more strongly against a science of which they are themselves the subject when it arrives at conclusions hostile to their feelings or belief, than when these are reached in an indirect manner and in the consideration of some other subject with which they do not feel themselves to be so immediately and personally identified. It then probably for this reason that the National Association has done so little since its institution towards defining and consolidating that science to the promotion of which it is pledged. It may be assumed that it will be capable of doing more practical good in ignoring this portion of its programme, and devoting itself to questions of detail. And, indeed, if this be the object, it must be confessed that it is a legitimate one, and one which, carried out with tact and skill, might be of eminent service to the State. That a number of enlightened men, holding strong opinions upon social polity, should be brought together once every year, now in one part of the kingdom, now in another, to exchange ideas and to give public expression to their thoughts upon matters then engaging the attention of the country, is not only desirable for the sake of the original and new lights which they may be expected to throw upon these subjects, but not the less as a corrective to the more fanciful and impracticable panaceas which are but too apt to find favour in the solitude of the study. The programme of the present meeting is entirely of a legislative and educational kind. The questions set down for discussion in each of the four departments into which the Association supposes social science to be divided, are almost without exception of this nature, and might as well have occupied the attention of Parliament as of the Social Science Congress.

Education; 3rd. Health; 4th. Economy and Trade. And they are presided over on the present occasion by Mr. Justice O'Hagan; Dr. Andrews, of Belfast; Sir James Simpson, of Edinburgh; and Sir Robert Kane. From these names it will be seen that the Irish element is strongly represented, and that it is apparently well inclined to hold its own upon Trish soil.

The selection of Belfast as the place of meeting for this year's Congress is in every respect a happy one. Certainly, if social science can do any practical good for a community in the way of smoothing asperities, of healing feuds, and showing the mutual dependence of mankind upon one another, it has a fine field for its labours in the north of Ireland. The perpetual criminations and recriminations going on amongst the various religious sects, and more especially between the Orange and Roman Catholic populations of this district, have been long a standing disgrace to it and to the very name of civilization. We in England have been only too often astounded by the sectarian animosities, proceeding at length to violence and bloodshed, by which this portion of the kingdom has been distracted. It would be well, indeed, if one could hope that the Congress now assembled here could do anything towards remedying this great evil, and the Association would do much towards rescuing itself from that stigma, too often attached to its labours, of uselessness, if it would even make the attempt. If some bold spirit, emulating the example of Prof. Tyndall, at Dundee, would but address the people upon the subject of religious toleration, he might perhaps—we confess we are not very confident upon the subject—awaken them to a right consideration of the error of their ways. But it is something more than improbable that any such attempt will be made at the present meeting,-intolerance is spread very widely and very deeply at Belfast; nor would it, perhaps, be appreciated by the populace at its proper worth. It would be a melancholy incident in the Social Science Congress of 1867 were one of its members to be lynched by an indignant multitude; and, upon the whole, we would not advise any one to attempt the experiment, however much we might desire to see it successfully made. The populace is, by-the-by, one of the most remarkable features of the place. One goes to Ireland expecting to hear the soft gutturals and redundant vowels of the Southern patois, which he has been invariably accustomed to associate with the tongue of the Irishman proper; and here his ears are assailed by nothing but the harshest and least musical nasal sounds. One goes full of the wrongs and miseries of Ireland, expecting to find himself in a city of cabins, amongst a starved and savage people; and here he finds nothing but immense manufactories, extensive docks, unusually regularly-built streets and squares, and educational institutions in number far above the average of most large towns. He comes with his conventional idea of the Irish character-idle, mirthful, light-hearted, disinclined above all things to regular employment, with an irresistible proclivity for dancing, drinking, fighting, laughing, and making love, — and lo! he finds himself in the midst of a stern and sober race, somewhat sombre and lugubrious too, rather bending beneath the load of cares than beaming out from beneath them, and yet bearing them withal patiently, uncomplainingly, continually. The forms which he passes in the streets are the forms of men worn and stunted from unceasing labour-sunken eyes, These four departments are: 1st. Law; 2nd. laughterless lips, and parchment skins, -in a prosperous town in Ireland, and has no rival

word, such forms as, though born in Galway. might have been reared amid the smoke of Manchester. And such, indeed, are the infin-ences which have made of them what they are: the Scotch element has fairly overpowered the Irish in the north-east of Ireland-the Milesian has yielded to the Gael. In Belfast the transformation has been rendered complete by the extensive manufactories in which so many of the people are employed. Is this indeed Ireland? he asks of himself, as his eye takes in all the features of the scene. Is this indeed Ireland? and these the Irish? Ireland, yes: but not the Irish. There is as little of the real Irish about Belfast as there is about Binningham; if, indeed, there is so much.

The town itself is picturesquely situated, especially viewed from the harbour. It is built upon the inconsiderable stream of the Lagan, where that river empties itself into the Bay of Carrickfergus. Above it rise mountains of lofty elevation and striking outline, stretching away to the north, and towering over the upper portion of the bay; upon the south are rich and well-cultivated lands, belonging to the adjacent county of Down; and higher up the valley of the Lagan this fertility crosses the view, and extends itself also to the Antrim side. Though built on what is little better than a reclaimed marsh, Belfast is said to be a healthy town-a circumstance owing, no doubt, to its modern construction, and consequent facilities for drainage. Its rise as a place of opulence dates no further back than from the early years of the seventeenth century. It is to Sir Arthur Chichester, lord deputy in the reign of James the First, and afterwards to the Earl of Strafford, that its present prosperity is primarily due. The former obtained the final grant of it from the King in 1604, and colonized it from his own estates in Devonshire; the latter, having purchased certain monopolies enjoyed by the adjacent port of Carrickfergus, opened the competition to Belfast, which soon distanced its already failing rival. From that time to the wars of Cromwell its progress was singularly rapid. To such importance had it already grown, indeed, within half a century of its rise, as to take upon itself a protest against the exforth as a "Representation of the present evils and imminent danger to religion, laws, and liberty, arising from the late and present practices of the sectarian party in England piece of impertinence which drew down upon the protesters the indignation of Milton, who honoured them with a reply, in which they are described as "blockish presbyters," "unhallowed priestlings of an unchristian synagogue," &c., in that great man's best style of acrimony.

During the Irish wars which for forty or fifty years after this event wasted the country about Belfast, and greatly retarded the prosperity of the town, it was occupied at different times by the troops of all the contending parties, till at length the revolution which placed William the Third, of "glorious, pious, and immortal memory," upon the throne, restored it, with the rest of the north of Ireland, to more than its former peace and well-being. Its rise since that time has been uninterrupted and most astonishingly rapid, till now, when it is absolutely the second largest town in Ireland, and has a population numbering over 100,000 souls. Its cotton fabrics, linen, calico, &c. are famous all over the world, and it exports, in common with most Irish seaports, large quantities of live stock, besides butter, corn, bacon, tanned leather, and raw hides. It is by far the most

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in Scotland, except Glasgow, with which it does an immense trade.

Hither, then, have been flocking for the last few days the men who are interested in the success of the Social Science Association. They have a fair field before them, and we hope the good and quarrelsome people of Belfast will be all the wiser for their visit.

The Mining and Metallurgy of Gold and Silver. By J. Arthur Phillips. (Spon.)

THE technical literature of this country is exceedingly small; the volumes of any real value which belong to this class may be counted on our fingers. There has been a growing feeling that we have neglected one branch of education which cannot but prove of the highest value to a manufacturing people; that although we have, by dint of laborious industry and hard-earned experience, reached a very satisfactory point in the arts, yet, having failed to record the steps by which that point has been attained, we have not enabled the son to maintain the father's triumph. The want of instructive books on our great national industries is beginning to be felt. The workmen of other countries are treading on the heels of the workmen of this, and they ask for aid-in the shape of a record of processes, and an explanation of the principles by which these have been guided—and, in the English language, they find them not. In France and Germany, books of a high class, in the various divisions of technology, are abundant, and in America there are many excellent examples of such works. It is satisfactory, however, to have to notice from time to time a practical treatise on some of our arts and manufactures, although the intervals at which such appear are wide, and the degrees of merit exceedingly variable.

The treatise before us was undertaken "to supply a want in our technical literature, which is very deficient in books treating of the mining and metallurgy of the precious metals."
The author might have been bolder, and said, that English literature does not possess a single comprehensive book on mining for any of the

metals, although England is the most important

mining country in the world.

We find in this treatise abundant evidence of its being the work of a man who is thoroughly acquainted with his subject-of one to whom subterranean exploration is in every way familiar, and who has made the separation of the metals from their ores the subject of a life-long study. This handsome volume may be at once pronounced to be exhaustive of all that relates to the mode of occurrence of gold and silver in Nature, and of all that belongs to the processes by which these metals are made available for the arts. The volume is, as the author states, "a record of well-authenticated facts, and of the results of actual experience. We find a few speculative views to which we

shall presently refer.

Commencing with the more valuable metal, gold, Mr. Phillips examines with considerable caution, and describes with much precision, the geological position of the gold-bearing rocks. He shows, by incontrovertible evidence, that the auriferous deposits are not confined to the Silurian epoch, as main-tained by Murchison, but that they are extended into the Jurassic periods; fossils entirely confined to the Jurassic rocks having been found in the immediate proximity of the largest and best-defined auriferous quartz veins in the coasts of the Pacific. An intimate acquaintance with the gold regions of the New World has enabled the author to give many very interesting descriptions of the con-

ditions under which gold is found in the Appa-lachian and in the Californian gold-fields, in British Columbia and in Canada, while the gold regions of Australia, Brazils and other countries are described from the most trust-worthy authorities. The adventurous gold-digger, the "placer-miner," who attacks the debris which has been accumulating for ages, and in which the largest quantity of the precious metal is found, is a man gifted with great industry, promptness of action, considerable readiness of resource, and much mechanical skill. He has to work in the beds of ravines or gullies, and on the bars and in the beds of modern rivers. The "pay-dirt"—that is, such deposits as will remunerate the miner for his labour-is often found at great depths from the surface, and is not unfrequently covered by thick beds of lava or volcanic ash. Therefore, shafts have to be sunk and levels to be driven, in a manner similar to ordinary mining; but, owing to the incoherent nature of the deposit, under conditions which tax more severely the care and skill of the miner. The gold-containing deposit being reached, it has to be brought to the surface; and by the action of water, thousands of tons of refuse matter have to be removed to obtain a few ounces of the precious gold. In some instances, where there is a great thickness of deposit, favourably situated for the operation, hydraulic mining is adopted. In this case jets of water under great pressure, obtained from a high column, are directed against the accumulations of sand and gravel, which are thus not only disintegrated, but finally carried away by the current. This description of mining, which is much adopted in California, requires the expenditure of much money, directed by engineering skill of no mean character, in the construction of immense reservoirs, of canals and aqueducts. The Eureka Canal, with its reservoirs and branches, cost 200,000l., and that of Middle Yuba 120,000l. The lofty aqueducts constructed of trestlework, for the purpose of conveying water across deep valleys and ravines, are remarkable objects in the gold-mining districts. The "Magenta" aqueduct is 1,400 feet in length, its greatest maximum height is 65 feet. Along these wooden channels—"flumes," as they are called—rivers are carried, which are emptied into tanks placed at a sufficient elevation above the workings; from this "pressure box" the water descends through iron pipes into canvas hose, and, under a pressure of from sixty to a hundred pounds to the square inch, is projected against the face of a bank, and thus, by its disintegrating and softening action, brings down large sections of the gravelly mass, which, being carried onward through tunnels and sluices by the force of the torrent, deposits, in obedience to the law of gravity, the heaviest particles along its course in cavities artificially prepared to receive it. "Man has in the hydraulic process taken command of Nature's agencies, employing them for his own benefit, and compelling her to surrender the treasure locked up in the auriferous gravel by the use of the same forces which she employed in distributing it." Vein-mining in California and Australia is

fully described in this volume, although it differs but little from the mining processes adopted for tin, copper or lead in any other region. All the amalgamating processes have received much attention from Mr. Phillips; hence his descriptions of them are of much practical value, and his remarks have all the weight which belongs to a large experience guided by considerable

scientific knowledge.
We have already said that the speculative

views to be found in this volume are few. Those which have a place in it are worthy of the closest consideration, as the hypotheses of one who has observed the phenomena of Nature with well-trained care. Mr. Phillips evidently has a leaning towards the view which supports the action of subterranean influences in the production of metallic veins as we find them. We infer, from some remarks, that he supposes he has obtained evidence to prove that metalliferous deposits are even now to be seen in process of formation in some parts of California. We may, however, quote the author against himself: "Our knowledge of Chemical Geology is not, as yet, sufficiently advanced to warrant an attempt to form a general theory of the formation of mineral

It has long been a received idea that two metals, of a very dissimilar character, gold and tin, were to be found only under similar conditions in Nature. In Cornwall, it was supposed that tin was only to be found in the most superficial deposits; and, as the tin-streams became exhausted, the miners' hopes were weak for any prolonged continuance of his wealth in the few stanniferous lodes which were formerly worked near the surface only. Tin lodes of great value are now being wrought at depths of 600 yards; and there are no indideeper. So with gold. The extension of quartz-mining proves "that gold ledges are not more liable than ordinary metalliferous veins to become impoverished in depth."

The latter half of this volume is devoted to silver and the mode of its occurrence; and the metallurgy of this metal is described with the same exact care as that which distinguishes the section devoted to gold. The chapters devoted to the silver-mines of North and South America are full of information and interest. Those which relate to the separation of silver from the baser metals with which it is generally found should be studied by all who are in any way interested in its mining or metal-

We learn from some interesting tables, which are cautiously compiled, that in 1865 the principal gold-producing countries of the world yielded 559,587 pounds troy of gold, and upwards of four million pounds troy of silver. It will be found, by calculating the value of those metals at the present market prices of them, that man's industry has added to the world's wealth, by the quantity of those metals which he has obtained by mining, nearly four hundred million pounds sterling.

Of gold, California and the adjoining states New Zealand, 191,000; Russia, 69,500; South America, 34,000; Southern Asia, 25,000; and our own Welsh hills gave the little contribu-tion of 742 ounces.

Of silver, Mexico produced 1,700,000 pounds troy; the United States, 1,000,000; Peru and Chili, 598,000; Spain, 110,000; and the rest of Europe, including the British Isles, 526,000.

We cannot conclude our notice of this volume without awarding a well-deserved word of praise to the publishers for the very handor praise to the publishers for the very hand-some style in which it has been produced by them. Paper, type, binding, wood-cut illus-trations and maps, are all equally excellent. We know not of another technical book in the English language which has been produced with so liberal an expenditure. Let us hope that both author and publishers will reap the reward they deserve.

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Toasts and Sentiments. (Routledge & Sons.) Originally, the "toast" was material and had nothing to do with sentiment. It was the bit of browned biscuit which floated on every flowing bowl of punch. In King William's or Queen Anne's days, as the fashionable loungers in the great Bath, in the City of Bladud, were flirting in the hot water, or taking their chocolate on the floating cork slabs, or reading the Gazette as they sat on the invisible seats in the water, they were startled and delighted by the apparition of a fair nymph who entered the bath in the most coquettish of dresses, and looking as glorious as Amphitrite her-self when she glided along the deep. The fine gentlemen, especially, did her honour, according to the rough humour of the times. They dipped their cups into the water nearest to where the delighted nymph herself stood, and drank the liquid off to her honour and glory. Among the eager lookers-on from the gallery was a young fellow in the most resplendent of birthday suits, patch, powder and sword and, drawing the latter, he exclaimed, with all the figures and flowers of liberal speech then in common use, that he didn't care a fico for the liquor, but that he was resolved to have a taste of the toast in it. This was meant for the lady in the bath, whom the rude gallant thus likened to the browned biscuit that in those days crowned the punch. As the speaker looked as if he were about to put his speech into action, there was a general scattering of the nymphs of the stream, with attendant screams and breathless pauses in flight, as much inviting pursuit as they seemed to dread it; and there was a calling of the beaux for their swords, and a scrambling preparation to defend the lady from that loud-voiced gallant. He, the while, swag-gered saucily off to the King's Mead, where no-body troubled him; but the story spread through the city, and from that day the word "toast" was applied to a lady to whom drinking honours were rendered, till it gradually came to mean the words in which the honour was paid.

Never had slang word such an immediate and wide acceptation, or so long a life. Modified, it still lives. Toasts, in the commoner guise of "healths" are still given, and France, which took darrick's great coat and added it to the French dictionary as a "carrique," has also imported the other name, with so little damage in the carriage, that it still figures at banquets in the shape of "tost." In our own contemporary literature, a "toast" was to be met with every-where, but always in its original application. In 1711, when Swift had been riding the Vice-Chamberlain's horse in Windsor Forest, and Dr. Arbuthnot had been his guide, he wrote an account to Stella. "We went a little after the Queen," he says, "and overtook Miss Forester, a maid of honour, on her palfrey, taking the air. We made her go along with us. We met the Queen coming back, and Miss Forester stood, like us, with her hat off, while the Queen went by. I was tired with riding a trotting, mettlesome horse, and Miss Forester did not make it easier. She is a silly, true maid of honour, and I did not like her, although she be a toast, and was dressed like a man,' that is, in the new fashion of a riding-habit.

These "toasts" of the town did not survive later than the beginning of the Regency. Indeed, before that, the names of the chief beauties of the day had ceased to be tossed about with impertinent and blustering familiarity by young fellows who had no chance of knowing anything more of the beauties than their names. But then art came in to gratify the old sauciness. Instead of the name of a new beauty being uttered with every glass,

her portrait was to be seen in all the shopwindows. The likenesses that used to be engraved on glasses in certain companies were now engraved on copper and transferred to paper. Adorers deposited them in portfolios, or suspended them on their walls, and fancied themselves into some relationship with them, as men do with the "ancestors" whom they buy at auctions and hang in their dining-room. Thirty years ago this sort of thing culminated and blew up. What with Books of Beauty, other blew up. What with Books of Beauty, other Annuals, and single engraved portraits, there was hardly a girl, or woman, of rank, fashion and good looks whose face was not in the "picture-shops," and whose name was not on the lips of a very wide public. The ex-King of Bavaria founded a gallery of Bavarian beauties. Whenever he met with one, he had her rainted if no objection was made: the portrait painted, if no objection was made; the portrait gallery was not open to the public at large, yet some scandal came of it. The loudest censurers were said to be the ladies who had not been solicited to have their portraits in the Walhalla of Beauty. In the case of our own ladies who had succeeded in the print-shops to the old "toasts" at the taverns, it came to be thought unseemly that their stately or simpering figures should challenge the comment of every saucy companion in the street or in bachelors' chambers; and the fashion died out. But the ladies themselves are said to have become suddenly the greatest objectors to the fashion. With most of the engravings a slight biographical sketch was given. This contained the date of Beauty's birth; and as year after year succeeded, the plate looking the same, the lady changing all conditions but one, the nymphs of ten seasons took a disgust at the process, and the nymph in her first flatly refused to patronize it. Thus, "toasts," "beau-ties of the boudoir," and all the system of that sisterhood have passed away; just as fashion herself has passed away from the great Bath, where damsels and gallants once glided about, the water of which the latter drank in honour of the former, and where that historical and audacious young fellow gave a new significance to a word by proclaiming his disregard for the liquor and his liking for the toast.

The subject of this book might have been treated in an archæological and witty spirit; but the compiler is ignorant of the subject which he fancies he illustrates. As a collection of toasts and sentiments, the book is worthless, whereas it might have been made to bear on our religious, political and social way of living. The editor tells us that "it is merely a selection of toasts and sentiments in common use," which we take leave to doubt, and might be bold enough to deny. At all events, we should not like to be of the party where men commonly get up and propose, according to their divers tastes, any of the following stimu-lants to the flowing bowl:—" May the joys of lants to the flowing bowl:—"May the joys of the fair give pleasure to the heart,"—"A bottle at night and business in the morning,"—"Here's to the old bird that's not to be caught with chaft,"—"May French principles never corrupt good manners,"—"The Roast Beef of Old England,"—and hundreds of others which ring of the taverns and "free-and-easys" of the middle of last century. T. P. Cooke, dressed as a stage-sailor, would hardly now give "The heart of a sailor, may it be like heart of oak!" Heart of oak is a matter of ship-history: and "Greenwich Hospital and its ship-history; and "Greenwich Hospital and its supporters" can hardly be a toast in common use, since it has entirely lost its old vocation. Moreover, the editor has no claim for boasting that "every care has been taken to exclude all offensive matter"; our eye fell on one outrageous sample to the contrary on first opening the

pages, and that page, at all events, it would be wise to cancel.

Wanderings of a Naturalist in India, the Western Himalayas and Cashmere. By Andrew Leith Adams, M.D., Surgeon 22nd Regiment. (Edinburgh, Edmonston & Douglas.)

In remembrance of the training he received in his youth, Dr. Adams dedicates this volume to the memory of his father. The other day a volume by another rambling naturalist was published, which was inscribed to his wife. Learned fathers and "gentle companions" are worthy of all honour in private life; but the domestic affections scarcely belong to public affairs, and inscriptions suitable enough for the stones of tombs are out of place in the pages of books. The best commemoration which Dr. Adams could have made of the training he received from his father would have been a skilfully-arranged and well-written volume, and we are sorry we cannot say that he has in this way reflected honour on his training or his teacher.

Dr. Adams is not deficient in ability or knowledge. He can collect valuable and interesting materials. A keen observer, a daring sportsman, and a scientific inquirer, he can gather together much information; but he lacks the skill and style necessary to present it to his readers in the best way. A good writer would have made a capital book out of his materials. With a greater mastery of English, he would have conveyed his information in a more correct, simple, vivid, harmonious and pleasing style; above all, he would have arranged his subjects better. He would not have merely re-written his journals and epistles, and given the public his notes in a disjointed and scattered, disorderly and haphazard way, but would have grouped under headings the new or littleknown things which he has to tell about tribes of men, like the Paharees; and about animals, such as govind kites, fish owls, parakeets, flying foxes, ibexes, marmots, tame crocodiles, bold vultures, wild yaks, wild asses, wild sheep and wild dogs. Tailless rats are among the animals mentioned in his book; and it exhibits in chapters without any capital subjects what may be called headless headings.

All the plants and animals which a European sees in India, the Himalayas, or Cashmere are not different from those he has seen at home. The song lark which every summer visits the Chor mountains differs little from the constant songster of England. The house-martin is the same. The British bracken is plentiful. The primroses, however, which peep up through the melting snow are not yellow, but pink and purple. In Afghanistan raspberries and black-berries are common, and in some places pine forests, field clover and white daisies have been found. On the northern frontier of the Punjaub flocks of jackdaws, Cornish choughs and rooks are seen in winter. The ringdove resides in the lower Himalayas, and the common starling is known in Hindostam. The common and jack snipe appear in the Rawal Pindee in February and March. Chimney-swallows, sand-martins, and black and alpine swifts are passing visitants of the sub-Himalayan ranges. Sparrows breed in the thatch of the verandahs in June and July. Mallards, teals, cranes, bitterns, shorteared owls, moor buzzards, pale harriers, cormorants, ruffs and smews are all migrants, coming and going with the winter months.

But it is because the plants and animals of Central Asia differ strikingly from those of Europe that we learn with pleasure the names of those common to both divisions of the globe. The only illustration of this volume is a frontis-

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piece, representing a crocodile-pond, the bright water of which mirrors the date and cocoa-palms around it and the crocodiles basking on its banks. This pond is different enough from our ponds, in which the ducks swim and the cattle

"The crocodile-pond, or 'Mugger-peer,' as it is called, lies to the north-west of Kurrachee. The journey for the first few miles is of the usual uninteresting description - sandy plains, intersected with deep fissures and ravines, or studded here and there with 'scrub'; the oleander-leafed spurge (Eupkorbia nerifolia), plentiful in all waste and desert parts of Scinde. Emerging from a defile which leads through a low range of hills, the traveller enters on a desert waste, stretching westward towards the mountains of Beloochistan. In the far distance two oases are visible, whose date and cocoa-nut trees are refreshing to the sight after eight miles of the most monotonous scenery. In vicinity of the nearest grove is an ancient burial-ground, where may be observed several curiously-carved gravestones. I visited the crocodiles (Crocodilus palustris) on two occasions at an interval of several years, and although during that time they had been seen by hundreds of Europeans, including a certain class of mischievous young Englishmen (whose chief amusement, we were told, had been to shy stones and sticks down the threats of the gaping monsters as they lay basking on the banks of the pond), yet there seemed no diminution in their numbers, and the wild and uncarthly interest of the scene was to us as great From beneath a little banyan-tree on the as ever. From beneath a little banyan-tree on the verge of the pond, the spectacle, during the steaming heat of a mid-day sun, might call up to the mind of the geologist the sons of the world, when 'great moneters' wallowed in the seething waters of the Oolitic ages, when the mighty 'Ichtbyosarus,' and a host of 'fearfully great lizards,' drawners for reigned supreme over sea and land dragons, &c., reigned supreme over sea and land And as the date-palm now waves its shady boughs over the crocodiles of Mugger-peer, so then did the magnificent tree-ferns, gigantic reeds, and clubmosses, shelter their extinct predecessors. The greater pond is about 300 yards in circumference, and contains many little grassy islands, on which the majority of the crocodiles were then basking : some were asleep on its slimy sides, others half submerged in the muddy water, while now and then a huge monster would raise himself upon his diminutive legs, and waddling for a few paces, fall flat on his belly. Young ones, from a foot in length and upwards, ran nimbly along the margin of the pond, disappearing suddenly in the turbid waters as soon as we approached. The largest crocodile lives in a long narrow tank, separate from the others. The Fakirs, and natives who worship in the neighbouring temples, have painted his forehead red.—they venerate the old mouster, making a salasm to His Majesty whenever he shows himself above water. A handsome young Beloochee, whose occupation it was to feed the animals, informed us that the said king was upwards of 200 years old! (?) and that, by way of a 'tit-bit,' he was in the habit of devouring the young crocodiles. During our visit, this enormous brute was asleep on the bank of his dwelling-place, and seemed quite indifferent to our presence, although we came within a foot of him, and even attempted to arouse him by rubbing his nose with a leg of goat's flesh, which, however, a young one greedily seized, and dived under water. Our attendant tried in vain to excite their ferocity, but beyond a feeble attempt to snap their trenchant teeth, the animals showed about in the pond, and feeding on the grassy hillocks, but the crocodiles took no notice of him. The water in the pool felt cold, although fed from two hot springs, the one of which was of so high a temperature that I could not retain my hand in it; yet animal life existed; for I found where the yet annual me existed; for I found where the water bubled up from its sandy bottom, and in the little lade running to the tauk, abundance of a species of small black spiral shell, which Mr. Woodward informed me is 'very like some in the British Museum, named Melunia pyramis, an allied proposed of which frequents the size Lorden.' The species of which frequents the river Jordan,' The

other spring gushes from under a bed of limestone, containing numbers of fossils, chiefly coral, and other marine zoophites. We had a refreshing bathe in a reservoir close by; the temperature, though I should be sorry, however, to repeat the experi-ment, not from the chances of meeting with a crocodile (for, I believe, the Fakirs of the temple guard well against such accidents), but from the circumstance that (as is generally the case all over the East) lepers, and persons affected with loathsome diseases, repair to such localities. The crocodiles dig deep in the sand under the neighbouring date-trees, and there deposit their eggs. Quantities of deciduous teeth, of various sizes, were strewn along the slimy sides of the pond. Strangers are expected to stand treat, not only by the Fakirs and natives, who gain a livelihood by hanging about the pond and showing the monsters, but even the crocodiles themselves seem to anticipate a feast, and on the arrival of a party come out in unusual numbers. Accordingly we had a goat slaughtered, during which operation the brutes seemed to rouse themselves, as if preparing for a rush. Then our guide, taking piece after piece of the flesh, dashed it on the bank, uttering a low growling sound, at which the whole tank became in motion, and crocodiles, of whose existence we had before been ignorant, splashed through the shallow water, struggling which should seize the prize. The shore was literally covered with scaly monsters, snapping their jaws at one another. They seize their food with the side of the mouth, and toss the head backward, in order that it may fall into the throat. A few were observed to bolt their portion on shore after very slight mastication; but the majority, anxious to escape from their greedy companions. made instantly for the water, and disappeared with the piece of flesh sticking between their jaws. Our young Belooch friend informed us that they generally swallow their food at once, and do not, as has been asserted, bury it until it becomes putrid also that other large individuals besides the old king frequently devour the young soon after they are hatched. Crocodiles wallowing in the mud of the Nile, or gavials in the Indus, are sights which one is prepared to encounter; but the traveller may wander far before he meets with a scene so strange and unexpected as that just described. How these animals found their way inland to this solitary oasis, we could not discover. It can only be sur-mised that they had probably been introduced by the natives.

The Paharees are a tribe of the Lower Himalayas, differing widely from the nations of Europe, and having little in common with the natives of the plains of India. Dr. Adams describes them as copper-coloured, of middle height, spare and wiry. Some of their women are very fair and handsome, although they have not the erect and graceful carriage of the Hindoos. Their houses are flat-roofed, and built in ravines, where the heat is excessive in summer. They grow tall wheat; and the tendrils of cucumber, melons, and convolvulus twine round their dwellings, which are half hidden by the tall walnut-trees. The Paharees are frugal, industrious, honest, civil and obliging, and were warlike under their chiefs, but now, under British rule, are devoted to peaceful pursuits. A marriage among them is always a grand affair, which costs the savings of many years. A marriage-party may consist of two hundred men and women, decked in red turbans and many brilliant colours. They assimilate to the Rajpoots in their religion, and seldom mingle with the northern tribes. For they live in fertile places, amidst the most beautiful forms of vegetal and animal life. The gushing mountain streams are overhung by willow, mulberry and plantain trees. The blue waterthrush, perched on a rock, sends melody down the dell. The spotted forktail frisks about like a wagtail where the stream runs fastest. The plum-headed and rose-ringed parakeets are chattering among the leaves overhead, and

scarcely distinguishable from their green, until they dart off with a scream. The red-billed pie jerks its long tail gracefully among the branches of the walnut-trees; in bush and brake chirrup the red and yellow-vented bulbuls; and the observer startles the pea-fowl and Kalij pheasant as he wanders on, and gets glimpses of the barking deer disappearing in the thick cover. The Paharees can have few temptations to leave surroundings like these. For agricultural and social uses they have an ingenious system of water supply by directing streams through pipes and tubes formed of the bark of trees:

"The following curious custom prevails during the summer months. Children are placed on strawbeds, generally covered over, and put beneath a small stream, which is made to play upon the temple by means of a piece of bark shaped like a water-spout. In any shady spot one or two children may be seen undergoing this ordeal, while their mothers are toiling in the adjacent field. Natives have informed me that the children soon get accustomed to this treatment, falling asleep when placed under the stream, and awakening so soon as the water ceases to play on their temples. many are said to die from this novel hardening system, it must be confessed that a healthier race than the survivors are not to be anywhere met with. It is a study for a painter to mark the fair mother bending over her little child as it lies in some shady bower, formed of pomegranates, wild fig and acacia, wreathed with woodbine and the many gorgeous exotics of that region in all their wild luxuriance and beauty.'

Dr. Adams had opportunities in India, the sub-Himalayas and Cashmere, of studying wild animals (the cobra di capella, for one) in a tame state, and domestic animals in their wild state; but he does not appear to have made much use of his opportunities. He might have re-placed conjectures by certitude respecting the methods by which the cobra is taught to dance. Information about wild sheep and wild dogs would be most welcome, and could not fail to be useful; and there is probably much more to be learnt respecting them than he tells us,that the wild sheep is nearly as foul a feeder as a pig, and the wild dog easily won to friendliness with man. If Dr. Adams does himself and his materials more justice in a future work, we shall be glad to read his pages, and recommend them to naturalists and sportsmen.

The Champagne Country. By Robert Tomes. (New York, Hurd & Houghton; London, Low & Co.)

Mr. Tomes resided two years, as American Consul, in the ancient city where the kings of France and Navarre used to be crowned. For this ancient city he has much to say, to his countrymen especially. He would persuade them to tarry less long in Paris, and devote some attention to the capital of the Champagne country, Rheims, which is "pronounced by its people as if it were spelt Rans." Although we would not advise tourists to trust too implicitly to Mr. Tomes's idea of French pronunciation, we can recommend his book as a pleasant, unpretending volume. There is no lack of simplicity in it, for the writer seems to adopt old stories touching national characteristics as if they were applicable to people of to-day, or were true at any time. We think, too, that some of the Bull family whom he saw, or fancies he saw, have appeared over and over again in old stories, the incidents of which seem to adapt themselves for the amusement of more philosophic wayfarers. Mr. Tomes has an odd way, moreover, of seeing things generally. He solicits his countrymen (not a dozen of whom passed through Rheims during the two years he himself resided there) to free themselves from the wickedness of Paris and make sojourn in Rheims, which is deservedly stigmatized, he tells us, as "the most corrupt city in France," The women are but so-so, the men, even high officials, brutally rude, and the place dull. The clergy he describes as a class apart, who "go skulking about the streets like so many lepers or outcasts from society." And yet at the table of the curé of the cathedral he often dined sumptuously and drank in accordance therewith, helped himself to luscious liqueurs "without even being asked," and then repaired to the billiard-table, which the curé had set up "in his own house for the amusement of himself and clerical friends." These outcasts of society must have had a rather jolly life of it! Of the laity the Consul has but a very poor opinion. The 30,000 volumes and the 1,000 manuscripts in the library are undisturbed by any but the librarian, who spake with the utmost contempt of his fellow citizens of Rheims. "They never put a foot in the place," he said,
"and I am hardly asked for a book once in a twelvemonth." "Ah, those stupid fellows think only of champagne and merino." As those are the two things in which the Rhemois chiefly deal, we should take it that after all they are men who mind their own business.

As Consular Agent, Mr. Tomes tells us that his "chief duty was to receive thirteen francs and fifty centimes for signing my name and stamping a portentous seal of office upon each invoice of wine exported from Rheims to the United States." In doing this he frankly styles himself as "consular extortioner," for whose presence in that city there is no necessity. The stamp and signature legalized the invoices, and how this profited the health and pockets of the transatlantic people to whom the precious mer-chandise was consigned, the following extract will significantly show:-

"All wine that comes even from Champagne is by no means genuine. There are manufacturers there who fabricate wines from grapes never grown in the district which alone produces the real fruit. These will sell their concoctions at three or four dollars a dozen, give them as jaunty a look in bottle as the choicest Clicquot or Consular Seal, and call them by any name the purchaser may fancy within the limit of the law. These same artificers, of exhaustless ingenuity, will make to order not only champagne, but wine and spirits of any kind and country. When consular agent at Rheims, I legalized many an invoice of 'Madeira,' Sherry,' 'Port,' 'fine old Cognac,' and the 'best Holland Gin, and of all sorts of liqueurs, 'Chartreuse,' 'Curaçoa,' and 'Kirsch,' exported to the United States from Epernay, by an expert manufacturer of that place. I had reason to believe that within his extensive premises he had brought together the vinous powers of production of the whole world, and could, without travelling beyond his own walls, summon at his call the rich cordial of the Alps, the fiery spirit of the Low Countries, the wine of the Cape, the liqueur of the Antilles, or the products of any other quarter of the globe. In fact, it is no secret in Champagne that this ingenious and wealthy manufacturer, whose success has been commensurate with his wondrous enterprise, has virtually abolished all the geographical divisions of the earth, and, recognizing their diversity only in name and idea, produces within his own inclosure any wine, spirit, or liqueur a customer may demand. I know by name his agent in the United States, and I would no more think of drinking of his vari-coloured bottles than I would of those of an apothecary's shop."

Perhaps the pleasantest portions of this book are the chapters which describe the various sorts of champagne, and when and how it should be drunk. Equally pleasant, however, is the personal history of the more celebrated producers, nobles or parvenus. Of these, the Veure except those of St. Mary in York) from the clicquot, who died last year, is the most widely establishment of this Benedict to the resignation of Henry Howard of Glossop (as second wife):

to be a sort of sovereign lady, and her children and grandchildren wedded with noble blood One daughter married the Count de Chevigné. and their daughter the Count de Montemart. In this Countess's castle, the initials C. M. symbolize the union of Chevigné-Montemart; but irreverend wits will have it that they mean nothing less or more than Champagne Mous-seux, by the sale of which Madame Clicquot laid the foundations of her house.

The History and Antiquities of Selby, in the West Riding of the County of York, containing its ancient and present State, Ecclesiastical and Civil, collected from various Public Records and other authentic Evidences. With Notices of the neighbouring Parish of Brayton, and the Townships of Thorpe Willoughby, Burn, Barlow, Hambleton, and Gateforth. By W. Wilberforce Morrell. (Selby, Bellerby; London, Whittaker & Co.)

THE "Seal's House," Selby, on the Ouse, deserved a good and careful chronicler, and the interesting old Yorkshire town may be congratulated on now possessing one. Its commercial prosperity is a possession which is better worth having than the uncertain tradition of its being the birth-place of Henry Beauclerc, the only child of the Conquistor born while his father was a king. When, partly in consequence of the devastations of the Conqueror's troops, there was not a monk left in the north, the defunct St. Germanus inspired a holy man, Benedict, to proceed from Autun, in France, and open a new mission on the Ouse. For good luck sake, Germanus gave Benedict one of his own fingers, taken from his skeleton, and the gift brought the missionary happy fortune. As he passed through Wilts a devout country gentleman presented Benedict with a gold reliquary in which to carry the "index" of Germanus. Soon after the missionary had set up a cross, and the finger in front of it, beneath the oak on the Ouse (according to the Saint's directions), he received a visit from the Norman vice-sheriff of the county. "That is a gloriosus digitus," said Mr. Vice-sheriff Hugh, "and you shall have my best tent to keep it in."

This was the foundation of the great abbey at Selby. The old royal Saxon, and now royal Norman manor, was in part made over to it by William. It rapidly grew in beauty and in prosperity. The beauty has not entirely perished, and as the navigable Ouse still flows on, and canny men have succeeded to the canny Abbots, the prosperity has increased. In two years more the Roman Catholics will celebrate in the beautiful chapel built at Selby by the widow of frank, hearty, popular Edward Petre, in memory of her husband, the eight hundredth anniversary of the re-establishment of Christianity in the north, by the pious finger-carrier Benedict. A fine opportunity will then present itself for an illustration of brotherly love, by all Christian denominations in Selby joining in a demonstration of rejoicing. The Wesleyans of Selby owe the site on which their chapel stands to the generosity of Edward Petre, and to the Established Church charities he was a liberal contributor. Selby will do more than honour to itself if in 1869 all good men combine to show that there is still a Christian unity, and to celebrate the setting up of the symbol of salvation by Benedict beneath the Shire Oak in 1069.

Mr. Morrell gives brief but compendious histories of the abbots of Selby (mitred abbots, and there were no other north of the Trent,

known. From very humble beginnings she rose of the thirty-third and last abbot in 1539. Four hundred and seventy years had the Abbey of Selby flourished, when in the last-named year it shared in the common dissolution of the "religious houses," concerning which Mr. Morrell has the following apt remark :-

"It is important to remember, that the dissolution of these houses was an act of the State, prior to the Reformation, by a king and parliament of the Roman Catholic communion in almost all points except the supremacy, and was confirmed by Queen Mary and her parliament; and that very few Catholics wrote against the dissolution of the houses, some, both of their clergy and laity, the Duke of Norfolk even, accepting grants of their lands. At the passing of the bill, twenty of the mitred abbots were present in parliament, yet none of them voted against it at any of its stages. The value of the one hundred and eighty-six great monasteries at the dissolution was estimated at 120,000%. per annum, of which, excepting those at the universities, thirty-eight only were of larger amount than that of Selby.

Some of the old abbots, like some of the old bishops and archbishops, had fighting qualities, while others of them, who went into a battle fray, took care to be first out of it, and to fiee swiftest and furthest from danger. Since this volume was published, the archæologists at Selby have added matter for a future edition by the recent discovery of the grave of the twelfth Abbot, Alexander (1214-21). Mr. Morrell has not much to say about him; but Mr. Sharpe, when searching a few weeks since for any remains of the old Norman transept, and found not only what he sought, but Abbot Alexander too, assigned to the latter the merit of being the builder of the work which partook

of the lancet character.

The abbey lands of Selby were given to the well-known Roman Catholic knight, Sir Ralph Sadler. The Abbot, his prior, twenty priests and two acolytes, were not ill-provided for, taking the value of money into account, with 2201. 6s. 8d. annual charge out of the land. Of this, the abbot received a hundred a year. The Abbey Church was made the parish church of Selby in 1618, and it is still one of the glories of Yorkshire. As proprietors, the Abbots have been succeeded by Sadler, the Beckwiths, Talbots, Walmsleys and Petres, Roman Catholic lords of the manor, till, in 1854, Lord Londesborough bought this and several adjacent manors for the sum of 270,000l.-

"The Petre family also owed their pessessions to the spoils derived from the destruction of the monasteries, Sir William Petre, Knt., I.L.D., being one of the secretaries of state in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and was raised to the peerage on the 21st of July, 1603, under the title of Lord Petre, of Writtle, in the county of Essex."

Of this family, Mr. Morrell's account is less full than it might be. The fourth lord has been immortalized by Pope, for it was that peer who carried off the lock of hair from Arabella Fermor, and thus furnished the incident on which Pope built his poem. This Lord Petre got for wife a lady of quite another quality—Elizabeth, daughter of the second Earl of Rivers (the "handsome, impadent jade" of Pepys), who ran into debt, and ballied the lords for not punishing more severely Will Joyce, Pepys's cousin, who, forgetting her privi-lege as a peer's wife, had attempted to arrest her. Her lord died in the Tower. The marriage of the eighth lord with the Earl of Derwentwater's daughter brought into this family the blood of Charles the Second and Moll Davies the actress, of which pair the bride was the great-grand-daughter. Much stranger marriages followed. Mr. Morrell notices the marriage of

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and of the tenth baron (son of the ninth by the first marriage),—the author states correctly that he married "the daughter of Henry Howard of Glossop, the elder sister of his step-mother." But there was more than this. In 1787, the ninth baron's two sons married two of the sisters Howard: the baron married the third sister; and a brother of these sisters married a sister of my lord's! The relationship of these good folk one to another became more con-fusing than anything in the puzzling formula about Tom's father being Dick's son, and the consequent affinity of Dick and Tom.

In connexion with Selby, the name of Edward Petre, once Lord Mayor of York, is that of the most popular of his family. He is pleasantly remembered over the county by all classes. His liberality with respect to those who were not of his church places him in agreeable con-trast with the twelfth Lord Petre, who, though owner of the parish church of Childerditch, Essex, refused (from religious scruples) to subscribe to keeping it in repair, and left the poor congregation, the church being unsafe to assemble in, to meet for worship in the belfry.

Of the general history of Selby we will say no more than that it is admirably narrated in this volume. To archeologists, the ecclesiastical history of the place will, perhaps, be found most interesting; and it is a history here and elsewhere which has its comic side. An instance presents itself in the parish register of Tunstall, under the date 1557. The Pottmans ("as might be expected") abounded in the district. In births, deaths and marriages, they were ever presenting themselves, till at last the clergyman grew sick of writing their names. After three entries of them in the year above named, the impatient vicar has written, "From henceforth, I omit the Pottmans."

Sussex Archeological Collections, Vol. XIX.

(Lewes, Bacon.)
This volume continues a capital series of topographical illustrations in a manner which should excite the emulation of antiquaries in other counties. It may well excite their envy, if it does not move their shame, that Sussex, which is not pre-eminently wealthy in the world's goods, or in an archæological sense, should be displayed in the admirable manner of these 'Collections.' The energy of a few, a very few, diligent and antiquity-loving men has carried on this series in a way which is most honourable to them. Mr. M. A. Lower contributes several papers :- 'On the Tomb of Richard Burré. in Sompting Church'—a curious instance of the discovery by heraldry and a series of accidents of the right ownership of a long unnamed monument; 'On the Trial and Execution of Lord Dacre of the South' extends our knowledge of that bold and reckless young gentleman's brief career; 'Notes on the Family of Whitefield,' and 'On some old Parochial Documents relating to Lindfield,' the introduction to which reveals an unbeautiful state of things :said that, within the present century, bodies of departed parishioners have remained in the church, unburied, for several days, for lack of an officiating priest! In the mean time the fabric was neglected. Beautiful carved work and elegant painted glass were surreptitiously obtained by curiosity-dealers; a brass plate, commemorative of a Challenor, was removed from a grave-stone; and a book of accounts stolen." May we ask what are archbishops. May we ask what are archbishops, bishops, archdeacons, and the rest of them. paid to do, if not, at any cost, to save scandals of this sort? What must the laity, "ignorant laity," have thought when, as Mr. Lower says, the archbishop declined to interfere"? Readers of Walpole's Letters know how often

he obtained stained glass from ancient buildings; how he boasts of the quantity of that material he possessed, as appears by the catalogue of what George Robins called "the most distinguished Gem that has ever adorned the Annals of Auctions," i.e. Strawberry Hill Sale. Sussex, through the intervention of Lord Ashburnham (!), supplied one of the most splendid items in that extraordinary sale, or dispersion of plunder in stained glass, which took place on the 24th day of Robins's great achievement. This was in seventeen compartments of whole-length figures, and came from Bexhill Church-Lot 84. Mr. Lower "rescued from a dust-heap in the parish an iron helmet. which had been taken out of the church by the parish clerk." So long ago as 1580 "ould carved worke" and "an ould cheste" were sold respectively for 7d, and 1s, 8d.: the "orgavns" were sold for 1l. 6s. 6d. It is amusing to find it stated in the editor's (Mr. Lower) notes to Dr. Smart's readable ' Notes on Worked Flints,' that the so-called "implements" in that material are, for the most part, the results of natural causes, not of human agency. If, instead of "for the most part," he had written "999 out of 1,000," we should have agreed with him heartily. This writer's further expositions on this head are well worth the attention of enthusiasts in "implements." The Rev. E. Turner's paper 'On the Lost Towns of Northeye and Hydneye,' limbs of the Cinque Port of Hastings, is very interesting, and suggests the fate of other places in the same locality—Pevensey, for example. Mr. Honywood's account of 'The Punishment of Pressing to Death at Horsham' shows that in 1735 a poor wretch was thus slain for refusing to plead, or rather "for pretending to be dumb." The Rev. E. Turner's paper 'On the High Roads of Sussex' shows, in extension of what was already known, the horrible state of the thoroughfares in the county about a century or a century and a half since. In 1703, when the King of Spain went to Petworth, his equipage was engaged for six hours in traversing the last nine miles of this journey. Sir Herbert Springett went to church in the family coach, drawn by eight oxen,-a stately and patriarchal mode, which arose from the necessity of having "the strong pull, the long pull, and the pull altogether" of the bovine team, to which the power of horses is naught. Twenty-two oxen dragged a single tree on a "tug," as a timber truck was aptly called in the county. Lady Hatsell, by will, January 10, 1728, directed that if she should die at such a time of the year when the roads to Preston were passable, her body should be conveyed to that place; if not, as her executors directed. Luckily, she died in June. Why this strange state of things existed seems hard to decide. In one case, at any rate, the people, with very good reason it must be owned, looked upon the metropolis as the focus of all evil, and regarded their bad roads as safeguards against its denizens. When the road from London to Brighton, which now runs through Cuckfield, was to be made, it was at first proposed to carry it through Hurstpierpoint; and it probably would have been made in that direction had not the residents and neighbourhood petitioned Parliament against its course, under the fear that it would be the means of bringing down London cut-throats, &c., and of introducing contaminations of all sorts among them. These objections were less unreasonable than we are apt to fancy. Whatever else London contained, it certainly showed monstrous evil ways. The good of the town Sussex could hope for in but small degree, of the wickedness plenty would be sure to come

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Cornish's Stranger's Guide to Birmingham; being an Account of all the Public Buildings, Religious, Educational, and Charitable Foundations, Literary and Scientific Institutions, and Manufactories. (Birmingham, Cornish.)

This is a "handy book," in which a very large amount of information is compressed within convenient limits, and printed in a way to be pleasant. and not fatiguing to the eye. We could not say more in praise of any guide-book, and this needs no further commendation to induce visitors to take it with them through the busy town. The account of the Birmingham manufactories is not quite complete. Travellers leaving Ceylon will remember how they are beset by earnest men to purchase, as a memorial of the place, some precious stone, a carbuncle, for instance, set in "eighteen carat gold, Sir!" A good number of nounds to asked for this, but you ultimately get it for, say, a couple; and when you show this specimen of Ceylon work and production as a sight to a London goldsmith, he will smile blandly at you, dismount the carbuncle in a trice, tell you it is glass, that the eighteen carat gold is thin silver gilt, the value of the whole five shillings, and that it was originally made at Birmingham for Eastern travellers to bring home! One other bit of Birmingham work is not forgotten. Lord George Gordon, after the riots of 1780, turned Jew, and he went down to this town to undergo the crowning ceremony from the Rabbi in the Froggery here, where the old synagogue stood. So Lord George, maddest of the mad Gordons, was only a "Brummagem Hebrew" after all,—made to look oriental, like Birmingham carbuncles. "Bromwicham" was the old form of carbiness. Dominion The first instance of its being applied opprobriously to express something counterfeit is in Nelson's 'Collection,' of the Commonwealth time, in which the Devil is called "the Brummijam Uniter of Mankind."

Poetæ Scenici Græci, ex Recensione et cum Prole-gomenis Gulielmi Dindorfii. (Nutt.) A new and more correct edition—the fifth—of this

work is now coming out in ten parts, which are to form one quarto volume, containing the plays of Æschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes, with prolegomena on each poet and his works. The second part now before us includes nearly the whole of Sophocles, printed in double column, in a sort of uncial type which, though unusual, is dis-tinct, with critical notes on readings. For the reasons of his emendations the editor refers to his other works. In his Preface he remarks upon the progress made within the last thirty or forty years in classical criticism, and calls attention to various instances of interpolation.

Home-Spun; or, Five and-Twenty Years Ago. By

Thomas Lackland. (Low & Co.)
This is a new "sketch-book," in which the country and the country towns of the United States come in for their share of minute and loving description. Mr. Lackland is almost too minute and too ostentatiously loving; but he is sincere and speaks from his heart. If he finds that "to stand idly at the back-door and listen to the water rilling into the hogshead at the corner, is a good deal better than Casta Diva, and the melodies stick faster in the heart," it is as well that he should have the courage to confess it. To enjoy the country all the year round, some such feelings are probably needed. It is certainly necessary to enter fully into country pursuits, not merely to see the picturesque side of the life, but to be able to occupy yourself with it. One of our liveliest satirists said the other day that the man who sings most loudly, "We won't go home till morning," is generally on his way to his lodgings. Horace gave us the key to much of the extravagant praise of the country that has lasted from his day to ours when he described the old speculator, bitten with rural enthusiasm, withdrawing his money from business at the Ides and reinvesting it at the Calends. We confess that we are reminded of this picture in the Epodes whenever we hear a man declaiming too loudly

Beatus ille qui procul negotiis, Ut prisca gens mortalium.

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If Mr. Lackland does not awaken these sus-picions in us it is because the multitude of details in his book proves that he knows his subject well, and does not trust to the imagina-Some of his sketches of New England farms and farmers with their wives and daughters, of the old-fashioned barns, which he preferred to the new ones, and of the old winters which were so much more severe than their modern parodists, were quite worth the voyage across the Atlantic, and will be read with interest both in the homes which lie between field and lane and the houses which stretch from street to street in the old country.

As a means of expressing the words of foreign languages in a form suited for English readers, we may recommend the Outline Dictionary for the may recommend the Outline Dictionary for the Use of Missionaries, Explorers, and Students of Lan-guage. With an Introduction on the Proper Use of the Ordinary English Alphabet in Transcribing Roreign Languages, by Max Müller, M.A. The Vocabulary by John Bellows (Trübner & Co.) In his Introduction Prof. Müller diversifies at considerable length the nature of the various sounds in language and the ways in which they are pro-duced, somewhat after the same fashion as in his second series of 'Lectures on the Science of Language.' He then suggests easy methods of representing the sounds of foreign languages by means of the English alphabet, with a few additional characters, obtained by slight modifications of the letters. Prof. Lepsius's alphabet, constructed for a similar purpose, is capable of a more exact representation of every variety of vocal sound, but labours under the fatal defect of being quite im-practicable from its extreme complexity. The dic-tionary contains a sufficient stock of English words, alphabetically arranged, with vacant spaces for the corresponding foreign words to be written in English characters, with Prof. Müller's modifica-tions printed at the bottom of each page as in ordinary pronouncing dictionaries.—The pronunciation of English words is clearly and correctly given in Routledge's Pronouncing Dictionary, edited by P. A. Nuttall, LL.D. (Routledge), which, by a wise classification and the omission of superfluous matter, is made to contain far more words than other dictionaries within very convenient limits. It is rich in technical and other words recently introduced by modern progress. We are not quite satisfied with the meanings, which, though substantially correct, are often wanting in strict accuracy, and not so well arranged as might be wished. Still, for practical purposes, the book may perhaps answer well enough.—Examples and Exercises in English Parsing, Syntax and the Analysis of Sentences, by W. Davis, B.A. (Longmans & Co.), is a needless publication. So, also, are Murby's Introductory English Grammar, by J. Robertson; Murby's English Grammar and Analysis, Taught Simultaneously, by J. Robertson; and Murby's Excelsior Readers for all Classes of Elementary Schools, Nos. 5 & 6, edited by F. Young -We can speak more favourably of The (Murry).—we can speak more tavourably of The Class and Standard Series of Reading Books adapted to the Requirements of the Revised Code, by C. Hilton, B.A. Books I. and II. (Longmans & Co.), which, being prepared by an Assistant to Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, and printed neatly on good paper, are well suited for their purpose.—
The Complete Reader, being a Carefully Graduated
System of Teaching to Read and Spell by Means
of Attractive and Instructive Lessons. In Four
Books. By E. T. Stevens and C. Hole. Book III. The Exemplar of Style (Longmans & Co.), is a work of larger pretensions, intended for use in upper and middle class schools. It contains extracts from standard writers, including those still living, brief biographical notices, and explanations of difficult words, with hints as to their derivation, which would be more useful if the meanings of the roots were given. We think the book will be found in were given. We think the book will be found in practice far too long.—The Student's Chart of Modern History, arranged by J. W. Morris, F.L.S. (Longmans & Co.), exhibits at one view, by means of parallel coloured columns, the chief events and dynasties in Europe, from A.D. 1000 to 1866. First Steps in Geography, and Geography of the British Empire, by the Rev. A. Mackay (Blackwood), would be more convenient for practical use

now have. The information, as in all Mr. Mackay's works, is thoroughly accurate. -We do not remen ber having seen a work so completely to our mind as English Prose Composition: a Practical Manual for Use in Schools, by J. Currie, M.A. (Blackwood), which combines sound theory with judicious practice. Proceeding step by step, it advances from the formation of the shortest and simplest sentences to the composition of complete essays, the pupil being everywhere furnished with all needful stance in the way of models and hints. Nobody can work through such a book as this without thoroughly understanding the structure of sentences, and acquiring facility in arranging and expressing his thoughts appropriately. It ought be extensively used.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Bentham and Hooker's Genera Plantarum, Vol. 1, Part 3, r. 8vo. 18/
Blunt's Sacraments and Sacramental Ordinances, fcap. 4/6 cl.
Braddon's Birds of Prey, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Braddon's Birds of Prey, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Braddon's Birds of Prey, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Braddon's Birds of Prey, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Carlen's Brother's Bet, or Within Six Weeks, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Carlen's Brother's Bet, or Within Six Weeks, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Casell's Illustrated Book of Sacred Poetry, roy, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Casell's Illustrated Penny Readings, Vol. 1, roy, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Casell's Illustrated Penny Readings, Vol. 1, roy, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Diamond Necklace, Confessions of Countess De La Motte, 12mo. 2/
Evans's Lyra Silurum, Poems, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Froggart's Work of God in creyr Age, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.
Glen's Representation of the People Act, 1857, with Notes, 2/6 swd.
Glich's Representation of the People Act, 1857, with Notes, 2/6 swd.
Gluthrie's Man and the Gospel, popular edition, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Hemyngs's Called to the Bar, 12mo. 2/ bds.
Joys and Sorrows of a Schoolmaster, 12mo. 2/ bds.
Joys and Sorrows of a Schoolmaster, 12mo. 2/ bds.
Listen's Sind and the Gospel, popular edition, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Listen's Sind Fort of Peace, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Listen's Sind God of Schoolmaster, 12mo. 2/ bds.
Listen's God's Glory in the Heavens, 3rd edit. cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.
Listen's Star Berg a Scotch School, 1/2 swd.
Listen's School, 1/2 swd.
List

ENGLISH AND FRENCH MICROSCOPES.

31, Cornhill, Sept. 17, 1867.

My attention has been called to an article in Les Mondes, 22nd August, 1867, on the microscopes exhibited in the Paris Exhibition, and claiming for the French opticians the palm in the manufacture of microscopic object-glasses. So far from agreeing in the conclusions drawn, I consider the article itself explains the reasons why the microscopic object-glasses of foreign manufacture are inferior to those made in this country: First, in utterly disregarding the various methods we have adopted for modifying and regulating the quantity and quality of light admitted into the object glass; secondly, in dispensing with the use of deep eye-pieces; and thirdly, in the use of Diatomaceæ as tests of the quality of the object glass.

I maintain that, to test the character of an object-glass, it is absolutely necessary to apply means for varying and correcting the illuminating pencil, and that it is only under these conditions that the finest definition can be obtained.

In the article in Les Mondes the statement is made that photography has proved that no addition to the visibility of the fine details of a microscopic object is obtained by an increase of

power at the eye-piece.

I never yet have seen a photograph exhibiting the details of a microscopic object with the definition observed by the eye; they all have a somewhat blurred appearance, and this is not to be wondered at, seeing that our efforts have been pretty exclusively devoted to the correction of the visual, and not the chemical rays. I do not mean to deny their utility, if looked upon as diagrams illustrative of the principal features of an object. It must be a sadly-worked object-glass that will not, with a deep sady-worker object-glass that will not, with a deep eye-piece, give a great increase in defining power. I should as soon think of testing a microscopic object-glass with a low eye-piece as I should attempt to test a telescope object-glass without any at all. Some of our English object-glasses may

if a greater variety of type were employed to indicate the relative importance of the matter, and prevent the crowded appearance which the pages this test all foreign object-glasses that I have seen break down.

The use of Diatomaceæ as tests is most fallacious: they are merely tests for aperture. A doublet of very large aperture will show *P. angulatum*, whilst Surirella gemma, the one mentioned in Les Mondes, is altogether too coarse to use as a test even for a

low power.

The best tests for the quality of a microscopic object-glass are a globule of mercury and the Podura scale, for the following important reasons: whilst with a badly-worked glass, if tested on a diatom, as the aperture is enlarged, the power of detecting lines is greatly increased with either of the above-mentioned tests, in proportion as you enlarge the aperture, unless the best workmanship exists, so the glass loses its definition.

I look upon the statement that a 1 was the highest object-glass exhibited by the English as a mistake, seeing I exhibited one of our 3 to the jury, and therefore needing no further remark; neither do I think it necessary here to enter into the comparative merits of M. Amici's plan of immersion rersus the English one ("By their fruits ye shall know them"); and when the French and Germans can show the Podura scale under an $\frac{1}{8}$, as it is engraved in my brother's work, 'On Microscope, I shall be willing to again enter on an examination of a plan which has been tried in this country over and over again, and discarded as damaging to the definition and as extremely inconvenient. One more word and I have done. The writer in Les Mondes, when contrasting the persons who make use of the microscope in England with continental savants, pays us a high tribute in acknowledging the interest felt by ama-teurs in scientific research; but surely in confining its use to this class, he forgets the eminent labours in this land of such men as Quekett, Beale, Clarke, Carpenter, Busk, Bowerbank, and a host of others whose discoveries bear testimony to their patient use and appreciation of the English microscope.

I have sent a copy of the above to Les Mondes. JOSEPH BECK.

THE MANCHESTER TOWN HALL.

The following memorial has been presented by the subscribing architects to the Mayor and General Purposes Committee of the corporation of the city of Manchester:—

"The memorial of James Hibbert and Thomas Allom, F.R.I.B.A., architects provisionally selected for the final competition-under the mottoes, 'In honorem Urbis,' and 'Con Amore' (with star) -and numbered in the official report 26 and 42 respectively, desires to show:—(1) That whereas twelve designs may be selected according to the conditions for the final competition, eight architects alone contributing ten designs are so selected. (2) That of this number, four are Manchester architects, contributing six designs of the selected ten. (3) That in a national and renowned competition, wherein the best architectural ability of the kingdom is represented, it conveys an appearance, if not the substance, of favour, to award more than one-half the honours and prizes to Manchester. (4) And therefore your memorialists—included in those of the provisional selection—respectfully seek to have the present list extended to the full number allowed under the terms of the competition.
"THOMAS ALLOM, F.R.I.B.A.
"JAMES HIBBERT."

"September 16th, 1867."

The request conveyed in this memorial appears to be reasonable; and should be met by the local board, unless there be very good reasons to the contrary.

THE NUMBER OF LAKES IN CENTRAL EQUA-TORIAL AFRICA.

Norton, Stockton-on-Tees, Sept. 9, 1867. I merely beg to continue my comments on Dr. Beke's views on the lakes of Central Africa by briefly observing that, a few years ago, I became aware that in 1845 or 1846 both Mr. Cooley and Dr. Beke seemed to know of only one great lake; and I also learned that it was "a fact writers and cartographers well knew at that period there existed in those parts of Africa several more lakes of considerable size.

Ptolemy, about A.D. 138, mentions (as all know)

two large lakes south of the equator.

Some of the earlier Arabian maps lay down one lake, and others two, perhaps from having followed

Ptolemy, an Arabic translation of whom was ordered by the Caliph El Mamoun about A.D. 830.

The "Mappe-Monde" of the Sicilian geographers, A.D. 1154, which was described by Edrisi, gives two lakes at the equator; also a western lake (the Tanganyika) about 8° S. lat., and an eastern one, most likely the Baringo. Again, the map by Hassan Nureddin Ibn Said, in A.D. 1274, exhibits a lake on the equator, with two more sheets of water further to the south.

In A.D. 1511, Bernard Sylvanus, of Eboli, added to his "Tabula" some fresh additions to Ptolemy; and in A.D. 1513, the Portuguese "Sea-Chart" presents two lakes a little south of the equator.

The "Propaganda Map," by Jerome Verrazano, about A.D. 1530, represents the two lakes much like those designed by Ptolemy's translators.

In our own able countryman John Senex's "Map of Africa," published about 1712, besides the vast nameless lake (Nyanza) which is there laid down, the "Lake Zambre" is mentioned, although not delineated. Then in 1623 is published the fifth adition of Mayragap's "Atlas" to lished the fifth edition of Mercator's "Atlas,

which I need not again allude.

Now up to the year 1846, it is "a fact" that most of our English maps of Africa either entirely omitted the central lakes, or only inserted one. Of the latter, I will here merely state that in Lizars's the latter, I will here merely state that in Lizars's 'Northern and Central Africa,' in 1815, he only inserts the lake Maravi; and Walker, in his "Universal Atlas," 1811, places his single "Lake of Zambre" fairly correct. He, however, has erred by incorporating with it the second lake, called Moravi, and so making it too long. The same mistake has evidently been committed by Mr. Cooley in his "Way of Viverity of the Great Lake." in his 'Map of N'yassi; or, the Great Lake of Southern Africa.' It was engraved by J. and C. Walker, doubtless sons of the author of the before mentioned atlas, and published, in 1845, in Vol. XV. of the Journal of the Royal Geographical JOHN HOGG.

A TOBROKEN WORD.

WE are told (Judges ix. 53) that a woman threw a stone upon Abimelech and "all to brake his skull." The commonest account of this is that all-to is one word, meaning entirely. We doubt the existence of all-to as a separate word. The prefix to, before a verb, is in old English indicative of separation. There are dozens of verbs like totear, or totere, toteren, totorn, meaning to tear completely, or into several pieces. Among them is tobreke, tobrake. The prefix all is sometimes joined to the word: thus in a common glossary of Chaucer we find to-hewen and to-shrede, cut to pieces; tobrosten, to-dashed, to-rent; al-to-rent, entirely rent; al-to-shent, entirely ruined. We find no instance of al-to except as a double prefix; reminding us of what we see in altogether. In the Cook's Tale of Gamelyn, which, Chaucer or not, is of his time, we find

But threw him ovir the barré And his armé tobrak,

And again-

And gert him full upon the nek That he the bon tobrak.

The reader may find other instances.

The to is never joined to the verb in our modern Bibles; and so the knowledge of the word and the use of the prefix are lost. The same of modern editions of Chaucer. We look in vain for tobrake in Concordances, new and old. It is worth notice that the word does not seem to come by descent from the older translations, but is an introduction of King James's translators. In a Barker of 1599 we find "brake his brainepan."

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR INCURABLES.

In consequence of the letters from the Secretary of this "Royal Hospital," which were published the Athenœum of August the 31st and September the 14th, we have received from several quarters information upon matters of detail connected with the management of the institution, into which we have thought it our duty to institute inquiry. The facts represented to us are of a very serious character, and affect the whole management. They go far beyond the limits of the information which we originally wrote regarding this Hospital, but they rest upon authority which we believe it will be found impossible to impugn.

In giving these statements to the public, we oncur with our Correspondents in desiring it to be observed that our object is to benefit an institution which ought to be, as it was designed to be, eminently advantageous to the public interest. "My sole object," says one of our informants, says one of our informants, "is to do good to the asylum. It appeared to me that your original article on this subject was calculated to do good. I know and appreciate the abuses to which the Hospital is subject, and which prevent it from doing all the good it might be made to do. It appears to me that Mr. Andrew's letter in reply to your article is calculated to mislead, if it does not actually deceive, the public to the facts. I desire that you should be fully informed as to those facts." And our informant thereupon proceeds to particulars which will speak

for themselves.

It appears, with regard to the unfitness of Melrose Hall for an hospital, that there are many persons connected with the institution as fully alive to the deficiencies of the "Hall" as ourselves. The Secretary, it will be remembered, says, "I admit that the requisites of an hospital are not to be expected in a private residence, however com-modious. . . . But this institution is to its inmates a home for life, and the expectations of those who purchased Melrose Hall have been completely answered in its fitness as a home for invalids. This is the Secretary's statement, submitted, as he tells us, by order of his Board. Now, what will be thought of this statement of Mr. Secretary when it is known that the unfitness of Melrose Hall for its inmates has been a constant subject of discussion at the Hall; that the inconvenience of the house, the height of the floors, the slightness of the partitions, the absence of proper conveniences, the want of sufficient ventilation, the foulness of the smells, together with other disagreeables, have been the constant theme of representation and complaint. So badly is the place constructed that conversations are distinctly heard between one room and another, and we are told that it was the practice of one of the principal authorities of this asylum to listen behind the separating wall of an apartment for the purpose of overhearing the conversations of the inmates with their friends, and of reporting those conversations to the Management whenever they were disadvantageous to the conduct of the institution! In these apartments there are no bells, no housemaids' closets, no proper receptacles of any sort, and the retching of the the cries of the suffering, and the groans of the dying have been sometimes known to disturb a whole corridor of inmates! And yet, says Mr. Andrew, "this institution is to its inmates a home for life, and the expectations of those who purchased Melrose Hall have been completely answered in its fitness as a home for invalids.

Have they? Let us see to that. A Correspondent refers us to what was said by the founder of this institution—Dr. Andrew Reed himself—as to the sort of home which ought to be provided for these

"Within a few days of his death, springing with sudden energy upon his elbow, and speaking with earnest tones, yet indistinct utterance, he said to one of his sons, a member of the Board of Management, - 'Charles, remember this: every one those poor creatures is infirm; most are crippled. See to it that the plan of the building is so laid that you may get rid of steps and stairs wherever you can. Use the inclined plane and the lift everywhere; and make it easy for the sufferers to be

wheeled out into the sunshine on the terrace walks, and have the windows low enough to give even the bed-ridden a cheery prospect. This is my wish, remember.

How have these injunctions been fulfilled? Where is the lift for the infirm? the inclined plane for the crippled? Why, Mr. Andrew himself dwells delightedly on the idea of ascending a cold stone staircase to the top floor, which he tells us is "occupied by many patients, and has not a spare room." The fact is, that the whole of this institution is built entirely in opposition to the founder's designs. He did not contemplate an hospital such as that at Melrose Hall at all. What he had in view was a sort of college, the members of which should form one family, although living in their little separate domiciles. He contemplated, in fact, such buildings as we see erected by several of our City companies, as almshouses for their decayed members, in the outskirts of our metropolis, which each pensioner might have a separate abode and might enjoy his little personal comforts and conveniences. He was anxious that the hopeless sufferers should retain their little articles of furniture, -a bird-cage with its tenant, a mantel ornament, a time-piece, or a roughly-framed print,that might remind them of former times and earlier associations, and which, however worthless in the eyes of the stranger, would be to them of priceless value. Go to Melrose Hall, with its bare wards and ill-ventilated corridors, and mark how little the founder's desire has been realized in these respects.

But we are told that this is not the worst part of the present system. The indelicacies, not to say indecencies, which result from it, and which appear to have been represented to the Board without having been redressed, are something more than usually shocking to the nerves of those in health, to say nothing of what must be the effect on those whose complaints may be incurable. The sight of horrible suffering by the patients in the wards of this Hospital is scarcely more dreaded than the repulsive companionship which many of the inmates have represented themselves as enduring. Worse still, they are forced to endure the sight of death under circumstances shocking to humanity. It is not long since a poor woman died in a room occupied by other helpless inmates, and before she was cold was hurried out of her bed to be carried to the dead-house in their very sight-no shell being brought to her bed-side, nor even a screen employed, either before or after death! There is not a public hospital, a prison, or even a workhouse, in London, which such an indecency would be permitted. "I am not afraid of death," said one of the inmates, but really that was too much for me. But I could not get out of the room." Will it be believed? These facts were represented to the Board, and, if they did not approve, they at any rate did not mark their disapproval of the horrible transaction! Those who troubled themselves to read Mr.

Andrew's long letter may have noticed that he dwelt very triumphantly on what he ventured to call "a palpable mis statement." "The writer says that in the spring of the present year there were certain unpleasant investigations, commonly called coroner's inquests, into deaths which had occurred with unusual rapidity at the Royal Hospital for Incurables. . . . One inquest only (not 'certain coroner's inquests') has occurred."

Now it was very well known to us that there was only one inquest-that is to say, one coroner's jury; but we also knew that, practically, its inquiries extended over three distinct cases. What will the public think of Mr. Andrew's candour when they learn that it was only in consequence of the other two bodies being buried that there were not three distinct inquests! It was a question, indeed, whether those bodies ought not to have been exhumed, and it was only a fear of injuring the institution that prevented their exhumation. We have before us many particulars beyond those which have been published respecting the circumstances attending the inquiry. These particulars far more than bear out our original statement that "the nurses were charged with very rough treatment of some of the poor helpless creatures committed to their care. appears, indeed, that patients in the adjacent wards

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testified to the shrieks and cries which they heard from the sufferers, and to the threatenings which followed from the nurse. The patients under this nurse's charge died one after another. The matter was represented to the Board, but they took no steps. The inquiry into the facts was forced upon them in consequence of opinions given by Mr. T. Tilson, the Deputy Chairman of the Surrey Sessions, and other well-known gentlemen in the district.

Our Correspondents entirely concur in the opinion so strongly expressed in our columns, that the management of an institution of this sort ought to be entrusted to a resident medical officer of discretion and ability. It appears that, at a very recent meet-ing of the Board of Management, Colonel the Hon. Percy Herbert, who takes some interest in the Hospital, endeavoured to effect this reform, but without result. From causes on which we do not well, but which reflect very little credit upon the management, nearly all the principal members of the staff of this Hospital are, at the present moment, in abeyance. The "Governor," as he is called, has just been changed. The matron has been, or is about to be, changed. A head gardener, who keeps the Lodge, is wanted, at 25t. per annum. Also, amongst the advertisements of the parish unions in the London daily papers will be found an advertisement "for a skilled head nurse for the Royal Hospital for Incurables, at a salary, with board, residence and washing, of 30t. a year. Apply by letter and copies of testimonials, or personally, between the hours of ten and twelve, to the Secretary, Mr. Frederic Andrew "!—a very competent person, we should imagine, to judge of dwell, but which reflect very little credit upon the competent person, we should imagine, to judge of the qualifications of a skilled head nurse. Who looks after this head nurse? Although the greater number of patients in this Hospital are females, it a remarkable fact that there is no committee of ladies connected with the institution. We are informed that a number of ladies, of the highest informed that a number of ladies, of the highest position in the aristocratic neighbourhood of Wimbledon, have, at different times, volunteered to form themselves into a visiting committee, and to do other good and kindly offices, at Melrose Hall, but that their offers have been rejected! "The Board," says Mr. Andrew, "have never seen the absolute necessity of a resident medical officer." They have seen, it would appear, the absolute necessity of rejecting lady visitors! absolute necessity of rejecting lady visitors !

Who constitute the management of this institution? In our original article upon this subject we gave a list of the officers of the Hospital, commencing with "His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, President," and ending with "Mr. Frederic Andrew, Secretary." But of the sixty-six officers we enumerated, we are informed that less than twelve constitute the responsible management; these forming a "House Committee," which is virtually self-appointed! We are enabled to give the names, addresses and occupations of this House Committee; and we print them, in order that the public may know by whom their contributions of twenty thousand pounds per annum are applied:—

The House Committee.

Joseph T. Bidmead, Esq., umbrella-maker, Lawrence

J. D. Blyth, Esq., lime-burner, Twigfolly Bridge, Green Street, Bethnal Green.

Street, Bethnal Green.

Thomas Dix, Esq., formerly employed at the Tract Society,
10, Anwell Street, Clerkenwell.

A. B. Goodall, Esq., Victoria Park Road, Bethnal Green.
Fountain John Hartley, Esq., trimming-maker, 21, Pump
Row, Old Street Road.

Col. the Hon. Percy Herbert, M.P., 43, Charles Street,
Berkeley Square (who seldom attends).

Thomas Kelsey, Esq., fringe-manufacturer, 7, Wilmot
Square, Bethnal Green Road.

N. J. Powell, Esq., stationer, importer of tow prefer to

Square, Bethnai Green Road.

N. J. Powell, Esq., stationer, importer of toys, patentee of the baby-jumper, improved rocking-horses, children's perambulators, &c., 73, Cheapside.

Joseph Salmon, Esq., ship's biscuit-baker, 17, London Street, Narrow Street, Ratcliff.

Thomas Wickham, Esq., linen-draper, 69 and 71, Mile End Road.

G. B. Woolley, Esq., straw-hat manufacturer, 127, Wood

We suppose there is not a charity in London with such a Committee of Management as this. It will be obvious at once that it is composed, for the most part, of an inferior class of men; that they are all residents in distant parts of London, many of them at the most distant parts; and that they The Rev. Dr. Stevenson followed in his track,

have pursuits and occupations which must militate against their giving their time and attention to such a charity. We are told that they have lost the respect of the patients, with whom they rarely have any intercourse. There is a "complaint book"; but it is kept by the parties liable to be complained against, and is, therefore, practically of no avail. The meetings of this House Committee are held only once a fortnight, and even then there held only once a fortnight, and even then there are frequently not above two or three members present, and sometimes not a quorum. Why, at an Hospital like this, with 100 crippled inmates, with no resident medical officer, and placed, until within the last few days, under the care of a discharged parish schoolmaster, there ought to be a Board meeting at least every other day. But, as Mr. Andrew says, "the Board have never seen the absolute necessity."

Under such a system, it can easily be imagined that the position of the inmates is sufficiently imperfect. A Correspondent says respecting them—"The less afflicted, who can meet daily in the dining-room, fare well enough. Those who are unable to move themselves, need provision for loco-motion out of doors. If they want to get outside of the gates, they must hire or get the assistance of a fellow patient, perhaps a cripple. It was con-templated at one time to render the more helpless some assistance in this way. The helpless bed-ridden cases require special attention. Owing to the nature of their complaints, some of them are unable for days together to take anything in the shape of food. The same applies to dying patients. It is in these extreme cases that the Hospital of late has grievously failed. Patients in a dying state have complained of being neglected, and not supplied with necessaries; and when the patients have been prescribed a particular diet, they have been sent what came to hand, with the message that they must take what the sender pleased."

Our informants existed recover in the connection

Our informants entirely concur in the opinion we expressed that there is no necessity whatever, at the present time, for the additional wing to this Hospital, for which such pressing appeals are being made. Our attention has been particularly directed to the "Special Appeal" issued "January, 1865." In that appeal occurs the following statement:—

"The Board have now to report that a new wing has been added, the entire building giving accom-modation for two hundred inmates."

At the present moment the number of inmates does not exceed one hundred.

And yet they go on building and asking for funds for further additions to an Hospital which, on their own showing, is not one-half occupied!

No less, we are assured, than 30,000*l*. (this inclusive of the purchase) has been expended in making Melrose Hall fit for the one hundred inmates who occupy it-a cost of no less than 300l. per head! Can wanton extravagance exceed this? Or does the fact afford any inducement to lavish further contributions on this Hospital? We are assured that there are plenty of vacant apartments in the present building.

A point which had not previously engaged our attention has been very forcibly placed before us by one of our Correspondents. When this Hospital was first started, a "Medical Testimonial" was obtained from the most prominent physicians and obtained from the most prominent physicians and surgeons of the metropolitan hospitals, in which they stated that "too many incurable cases annually passed through their hands," and that the proposed Hospital would in no way interfere with any existing hospitals, but, "on the contrary, by providing a refuge for incurable persons whose former station in life unfits them for the workhouse, it will be the second of the state of the second of the sec it will relieve us from the necessity of dismissing those afflicted individuals to certain want and increased suffering, often the more poignant from their having partaken of the care and comforts of an hospital." All the early appeals of the "Hospital for Incurables" were founded on the supposition that urgent cases should have admission, free, at the discretion of the Board. The chief object of the Hospital was, indeed, to take in those who were discharged uncured from ordinary hospitals, and those who had no home to go to. Mr. Charles Dickens pleaded for this Hospital on this ground.

and spoke of the Hospital for Incurables as "the Hospital of the Hospitals." In the early days of the institution, it did receive patients from Guy's, Middlesex, and the hospital in Victoria Park. But the rule has been altered. There are now no such admissions. In the ratio that the public have supported this institution, its management has withdrawn the advantages it originally offered.

In addition to all that we have stated, we have

before us a variety of facts relating to recent occurrences at this institution, which demonstrate a lamentable amount of drunkenness and profligacy within its walls, accounting for some recent occurrences which would otherwise require explanation. We shall not, however, trouble our readers with

these matters.

If the statements we have been enabled to make are contradicted, our Correspondents challenge the production of the minute-books of the committees, which, we are confidently assured, will throw ample light on the management of this institution. Amongst other things, these minutes ought to show the circumstances under which the rule was adopted which carries all life sub-scriptions to this institution to a reserve fund. As we are informed, it was passed to meet certain contingencies only, and no one was more surprised than the founder himself when he discovered the extent to which it could be carried. It turns out that the opinion expressed by ourselves on this head was, unconsciously as far as we were concerned, only an echo of opinions previously, expressed by Dr. Reed.
What is now obviously required is, that the President, Vice Presidents, and other officers, aided

by the subscribers, if necessary, should insist on the appointment of a committee of investigation.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

UNDER date of the 17th September we have received a letter from Prof. Grant, of the Observatory of Glasgow, respecting the documents recently communicated to the French Academy of Sciences by M. Chasles on the subject of Newton's discoveries. This letter contains an absolute proof that the whole of the documents in question are forge-ries. In these documents it is stated that Pascal had arrived at numerical results in respect of the relative masses of the Sun, the Earth, Jupiter, and Saturn, the densities of their bodies and the forces of gravity at their surfaces identical with those published by Newton in the third edition or the 'Principia,' in 1726. Whereas Prof. Grant shows that with the materials at the disposal or. Pascal he must have arrived at very different numerical values.

The manuscripts of 'The Siege of Jerusalem' are now being examined by the Rev. J. Rawson Lumby, with a view to an edition of the poems Society, when its funds allow of their publication. The well-known alliterative poem in the British Museum, MS. Cotton, Caligula, A ii., proves to be the same as a MS. in Cambridge University Library. This latter is at present taken as the basis of the proposed text. and is to be collated Library. This latter is at present taken as basis of the proposed text, and is to be collated appropriate to be the with two copies at Oxford, supposed to be the same. But the incomplete poem in the Additional MS. 10,036—the MS. from which Mr. Lumby has printed 'The Assumption of Our Lady'—is a different rhyming version, with some points of resem-blance to the French text of the Addit. MS. 10,289.

The fact of the stealing of Mr. Huth's (formerly Mr. Daniel's) volume of Ballads from the Helmingham Library is put almost beyond question. The name and belongings of the chemist who stole it, and his agent who sold it, are known; and the public-house in which the sale took place is also known. The same thief and agent also sold several of the Helmingham books to the British Museum.

The Early English Text Society's prize at Oxford this year was divided into two portions by the examiner, Prof. Bosworth. The first prize was gained by Mr. Alexander Munro, scholar of Oriel, and the second by Mr. George Lever Widemann,

another scholar of the same College. The Professor reports favourably of the qualifications of these gentlemen.

The late Mr. H. Crabb Robinson left a diary which is understood as intended for publication. We doubt if it can contain all the large collection of anecdotes with which he used to amuse his friends. His memory was not only powerful, but consistent: he always told his story one way. He was once invited to meet Peter Pindar (Dr. Wolcott) at dinner. He observed that the satirist had his own bottle of wine: and by a little management he ascertained that the wine was brandy. The Doctor, in his peculiar voice, announced that he had that morning made a couplet; on being asked for it, he gave it as follows:—

Would you, my friend, the power of death defy? Pray keep your inside wet, your outside dry.

Henry Thomas Ryall, historical engraver to Her Majesty, died on Saturday, September 14, at his house at Cookham. Mr. Ryall began his career as an engraver by the production of Lodge's Portraits, the work by which he is best known perhaps. Subsequently he engraved Sir William Ross's miniature portraits of the Queen and Prince Albert; also Sir George Hayter's Coronation picture, and Leslie's picture of the Princess Royal's christening. These semi-public commissions procured for him the title of Historical Engraver to Her Majesty. Among other works of a miscellaneous kind executed by Mr. Ryall, we may mention 'Christopher Columbus,' after Sir David Wilkie (perhaps his masterpiece); 'Death of the Stag,' 'The Combat,' and 'Fight for the Standard,' after Ansdell, then a young artist very little known; 'The Reaper,' and 'Life in the Old Dog yet,' after Sir Edwin Landseer; and 'Landais Peasants,' and 'Changing Pasture,' after Mdlle. Rosa Bonheur. The artist has left, we believe, some works perfectly finished, but not yet published; especially 'The Prior,' after M. Trayer, and large plates of Landseer's 'Whisky Still' and 'Hawking Party.' Mr. Ryall was born at Frome, in Somersetshire, in August, 1811; and had, therefore, attained his fifty-seventh year at the time of his death.

Mr. Oscar Byrne, who has recently died at somewhat above the threescore years and ten, and who has been justly described, not as a "choregraphic artist," but as a "celebrated dancer and ballet-master," was probably the last man connected with the stage whose Christian name was given him to carry on the memory of a theatrical triumph. He was born during the run of his Irish father's famous "ballet of action" at Covent Garden, 'Oscar and Malvina,' a piece which set one-half of London mad, and the other half reading Ossian. The late Mr. Oscar Byrne thence got his baptismal name. As a ballet-master, he was a thorough artist. There was mind in the combinations he planned and in the beauty resulting from them. As a dancer, the present generation did not know him; but, fifty years ago, Oscar Byrne and Miss Smith, at Drury Lane, in 'The Bridal of Flora,' and Mr. Noble and Miss Lupino, at Covent Garden, in a "ballet divertissement," for which Frederic Venua's ballet-music was often employed, were among the great attractions of the town. But the two chief swains married the two chief nymphs, and private life and private teaching succeeded to those public displays.

In concluding a paper on Cotton-Spinning Machinery, read before the Institution of Mechanical Engineers at Birmingham, Mr. Platt stated that the number of spindles now employed in the cotton manufacture in Great Britain exceeds 36,000,000. Their produce of yarn when in regular work is 64,000,000 miles in a day of ten hours, which gives enough to wind four times round the globe every minute.

A new planet has been recently discovered at very nearly the same time by Prof. Tietjen, of Berlin, and Mr. Peters, of Hamilton College, United States. It is stated to be about the eleventh magnitude. The discovery of this planet, to which the name of Undina has been given, is very interesting, as it makes up the number of these bodies that have been discovered to 100.

At last we are to have a careful edition of 'The

Spectator,' and a cheap one. Prof. Morley is now engaged on the work for Messrs. Routledge. He compares the Papers as first issued periodically with the edition revised by the writers, notes the changes of word and phrase, and comments on such allusions as require notice. He then compares his text with the later editions, and shows some curious alterations by subsequent printers or editors. In matters of spelling, of capitals for emphatic nouns, italics for names, &c., the new edition wisely preserves all the specialties of the original Papers. Mr. J. Dykes Campbell's print of the original of some of Addison's Papers before they were put into Spectator form will receive due notice.

The Registrar-General has published a curious return of the number of suicides in England during the eight years from 1858 to 1865. They average 1,300 annually, and to every million of the population run thus in each successive year: 66, 64, 70, 68, 65, 66, 64 and 67. Hanging has always been the death generally adopted by suicides, 28 out of the ratio of 67 per million suicides falling under this head. After hanging follow cutting, stabbing or drowning, poisoning, and by firearms. The ratio of suicides per million of the respective populations in 1864 was 110 in France, 64 in England, 45 in Belgium, 30 in Italy, and 15 in Spain.

At this period of the year, when the Alpine tourist and his wonderful scrambles, and still more wonderful escapes,—which, by the way, have become unmitigated bores,—take the places once awarded in newspapers to the big gooseberry and the long-incarcerated toad, it is refreshing to meet with a simple, healthy guide-book for home travel, which, if the work of a foreigner in a good humour, will be all the more welcome. On this account we were glad to receive from Messrs. Sampson Low, Son & Marston an orange-coloured volume, styled Old England, its Scenery, Art and People Mr. J. M. Hoppin, a tourist from the United States, who has gone over this country in the beaten tracks, and, by the aid of guide-books, a good memory, and keen sense of enjoyment, produced a text which, if its matter is trite to last degree to the English, will be most acceptable to his own countrymen. To us the writer's omnivorousness is the pleasantest characteristic of his work. He saw nearly everything, from the Menai to Miss Marsh,—author of 'The Life of Captain Hedley Vicars.' He came prepared to devour, and did so with thorough zest. One may demur to his notions, as, for example, about the Menai Strait, which reminded him "of the formidable gorge of the Niagara River," and explain that the first Wales was not born in Carnarvon Castle, Prince of that Lord John Russell has not yet been beheaded "in the centre of Lincoln's Inn Fields," and suggest that if the latter event comes to pass it will probably have Palace Yard for a scene. We hope the "hereafter, when Greece becomes a nation worthy of the name, some Great Eastern will transport the (Elgin) marbles back again," is a long way off. One thing will please gentlemen who ent impertinent intrusions upon famous men. Although offered an introduction to the Laureate. and ardent enough to go to Farringford, he did not avail himself of the opportunities to the fullest; he is not of those who suppose the poet's invitation to Mr. F. D. Maurice was universal. A wonderful man, moreover, is Mr. Hoppin. As Stephen Cave was said never to have looked out of the window in St. John's Gate without a view to the Gentleman's Magazine, so the former never turned a corner or looked up at the sky without a similar reference. He was a very keen observer, and took local Thus, finding himself in colour like a chameleon. Penzance, he quickly hit the little trait of Cornish bad manners in staring at strangers. Every visitor to the town knows what it is to be stared at with ten-Cornish power. The man who wants to be stared at should go to Penzance. In short, if our American readers are inclined to take their author's advice, and come and see this island, they cannot have a more genial guide than Mr. Hop-pin; but they must beware of his archæology. His taste is good, especially for scenery, men and books; but his knowledge is flashy and superficial.

Let us wonder what is that Octagonal Pointed style of which Salisbury Chapter-house is said to present an example. His receptivity was wonderful. He saw the British Museum, and he saw Bowness, Bushy Park, Botallack Mine, Mr. John Bright, Bemerton, the Berwyn Hills, Bettws-y-Coed, Blenheim, Lord Brougham, Mr. Holman Hunt's 'Saviour in the Temple,' Charles Lamb's desk at the India House, and countless other things that we, thank goodness! never will see, and he formed opinions of good average quality about everything, from the deepest mine to the top of Snowdon.

Mr. J. E. Howard, of the Linnean Society, states that in 1859 he received some cinchonaseeds as a present from South America. He gave one of the plants raised from these seeds to the Government of India, and in six years more than 8,000 plants had been derived from it, and were growing in the cinchona nurseries.

An Australian writes in regard to the statement made by the Hon. Mr. Mitchell, of Trinidad, as to the live stock in our great southern colonies:—
"The honourable gentleman says there are. 180,000,000 cattle and 300,000,000 sheep in Australia. He may well point exultingly to such a world-supply, but it is altogether illusory. The present numbers in Australasia (which includes. Tasmania and New Zealand) are about 5,000,000 cattle, and a little under 40,000,000 sheep."

The Royal Society of Tasmania has published results of twenty-five years' meteorological observations for Hobart Town, together with a two-years' register of the principal atmospheric meteors. and aurora australis, tabulated and discussed by Mr. F. Abbott. To facilitate comparison, a meteorological summary from Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Auckland, is added, and the publication is a praiseworthy contribution to the meteorology of our antipodes. The tables show that of all the places included in the list, Hobart Town enjoys the most equable climate; and favoured by insular position, Tasmania maintains her title as "Queen of the South."

To the instances we have from time to time given of the injurious effect on climate and cultivation by the cutting down of woods and forests, Singapore may now be added. In that island, a rage for clearing has prevailed for some years, and the jungle has been destroyed without any regard to requirements of shelter. The capricious rainfall does not appear to be diminished; but the coffee plantations, which need protection, all perished. Had belts and clumps of the jungle been left standing to afford shelter, this loss might have been prevented. The cultivation of nutmegs, which brought a large profit to Singapore, has also failed, but not from the same cause. In this case, the mischief lay in over-manuring. Under these circumstances, it is interesting to hear that plantations of the cocoa-nut-tree have been introduced, and with such great success as to yield already a considerable profit. The return principally looked for is now cocoa-nut oil; but there are many ways in which the trees and their produce can be turned

A new and very important article of commerce has been lately introduced into America, called "New Grass Sponge." It is found in almost exhaustless quantities among the coral reefs of the Bahamas and coasts of Mexico and Florida. The sponge is washed and freed from grit, passed between indiarubber rollers saturated with glycerine, and then seasoned in ovens. After undergoing this treatment it is fit for use. The purposes to which it can be applied are very various; but it is especially adapted for stuffing beds, sofas, chairs, &c. One pound of this sponge is equal, for these purposes, to one and a half pound of hair. Several ships are now employed in carrying large cargoes of this material to New York.

Sow and plant nettles, says Mr. Xavier Garenne, and all the *landes* in the south and the wastes in other parts of France will be converted into green and profitable fields. He wonders that the world is so slow to learn the great economic value of this robust plant, which will grow every-

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where. Raise nettles, and in the young tops thereof you will have a delicious and early vegetable for our dinner-table, and abundance of early green food for your cattle. The milk of cows is improved by a diet of nettles, and the beef of cattle fed on nettles is superior to all other. Nettles, too, are of remarkable efficacy in restoring broken-down horses to vigour. And in commerce their value is great for they can be treated as hemp, and spun into lines and ropes, and woven into cloth. France has grand schemes of planting in contemplation, and it may be that the long-neglected Urtica will be taken into favour.

Congresses being in fashion, the Celts have re solved on following the mode. An International Celtic Congress is to be held at Saint-Brieuc, in France, on the 13th of October. Its object is to ventilate questions of history, literature, art, legislation, religion, and social life, having reference to the Celtic nations. A desire is expressed to establish relations with the inhabitants of the various countries where the Celtic dialects are still spoken, as well as with all persons who take interest in this branch of philological and archæological

MR. MORBY'S COLLECTION of MODERN HIGH-CLASS FIGTURES is ON VIEW at the Royal Exchange Fine Arts Gallery, *9, Cormbill. This Collection contains examples of John Phillip, R.A.—Millais, R.A.—Clarkson Stanfield, R.A.—John Linnell.—Peter Graham—Lealle, R.A.—B. Royald, R.A.—E. M. Ward, R.A.—Egg, R.A.—Frith, R.A.—Goodall, R.A.—E. M. Ward, R.A.—Egg, R.A.—Frith, R.A.—Goodall, R.A.—Goodall, R.A.—Brithe, A. R.A.—Brithe, N. Goodall, R.A.—Goodall, R.A.—Rettie, A. R.A.—Rettie, A. R.A.—Andell, A.R.A.—Frost, A.R.A.—H. O'Nell, A.R.A.—Pettie, A.R.A.—Gale—Marks.—F. Hardy—Lidderdale—George Smith—Greime—H. W. B. Davis—Baxter—Burges—Frère. Also Drawings by Hust, Cox, Birket Foster, Duncan, Topham, F. Waker, E. Warres, &c.—Admission on presentation of address card.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—See the PARIS EXPOSITION of DESCRILLING.—Professor Fepper's Lectures on the PALAIS DE FEXPOSITION of the WONDERFUL LEOTARD, the great Optical Surprise, called the EFFICY of the DEAR DEFUNCT and the Musical Entertainments of Damer Cape, Esq.

SCIENCE

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

SECTION A.—MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE,

FRIDAY.

The Report on Observations of Luminous Meteors, 1866-7, was presented by Mr. J. GLAISHER.—The object of collecting observations of luminous meteors to serve as a basis for calculations, and to assist in pointing out whatever conclusions may be drawn from them, was stated to be kept in view by the Committee in presenting with this Report a continuation of the catalogue of former years. The apparent places of the meteors given either by their right ascensions and declinations, by their allineations with certain neighbouring stars, or, in some cases of less accurate approximation, by their apparent azimuths and altitudes with respect to the visible horizon. large proportion of the descriptions contained in the present catalogue refer to great meteors re-corded on the morning of the 14th of November, The numerous accounts of meteors of a 1866. less striking description than those selected for entry in the catalogue, noted on the same morning, have been received by the Committee from of servers whose reports on the particular phenomena of the shower are also noticed, with more or less detail, in an appendix. The greatest multitude of the meteors on the morning of the 14th of November made their appearance exactly during the hour from one to two o'clock A.M., which was the hour appointed beforehand by the Committee for cooperation amongst the observers for making simultaneous observations of the shower. One meteor during this hour was simultaneously recorded at Sidmouth and at Cardiff, and the length of the terminal portion of its phosphorescent streak, which remained visible for ten minutes, was found to be eighteen miles. The heights of three other meteors of the November shower were obtained; one of these, which left a remarkably persistent luminous streak over the town of Dundee, was satisfactorily found to be from 51 to 57 miles above the earth's surface. One meteor also, on the 10th of August

last, was simultaneously observed at London and at Birmingham, and disappeared at a height of 76 miles above the neighbourhood of Bristol. The region of the true or supposed radiant point of a number of individual meteors in the catalogue is indicated by these observations. Excellent means are thus afforded for distinguishing the obvious peculiarities of light and motion which characterize meteors from particular radiant points. To assist observers in this inquiry, all the observations hitherto entered in the catalogue are mapped on a series of charts, the first four maps of which are now lithographed, and twenty-five copies of each are presented to the British Association with the present Report. The position of each radiant point amongst constellations is conspicuously entered upon the maps, with the period of its duration from first to last; and upon the same chart the meteor-tracks proceeding from the particular radiant point are denoted by such plain signs as to indicate directly the radiant point with which they are connected. In the case of the best established star-showers, the meteor-tracks engraved upon the maps will generally be found to tell beforehand the which meteors appearing at any part of the sky from one of those radiant points will pursue across the sky, "like wires stretched for the meteors run upon," to use the words of an observer of the November shower last year. In other cases, where the position of the radiant point is not yet so well established, its printed place must be regarded as provisional, and as requiring further discriminating observations to decide its real place. A copy of one of the first four maps was exhibited, showing the radiant point of the November meteors, as observed at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich. The three other plates now printed refer to the special radiant points in January, August, and October. The whole series will be in readiness to distribute to observers this year, before the re-appearance, as anticipated, of the great star-shower on the morning of the 14th of November next. If the space allotted to the Committee has been taxed to secure insertion in the catalogue for the multitudinous observations of meteors of the 14th of November last, it is much more difficult to represent adequately the twenty or more French and the twenty German descriptions of a large detonating fireball, seen by daylight in the north of France, on the 11th of June last, which the Committee have received. The luminous streak left by this meteor was visible at many places for more than half an hour after the first appearance of the meteor, and exhibited unusual contortions. Its occurrence very near the date of the 9th of June, marked last year by the prodigious stone-fall of three aerolites at Tadjera, in Algeria, was pointed out as probably connecting these three extraordinary occurrences together in a single aerolitic period. At the end of the Report is placed an addition to the catalogue of large meteors and aerolites by Mr. R. P. Greg; being in continuation of that printed in the volume of the Association Reports for 1860, and supplying the omissions and bringing up data of the catalogue to the present time, thus making it a perfect repertory of this class of mees. Abstracts of a number of importeoric occurrence tant papers on the subject of shower meteors are deferred by the Committee until a time when the maximum display of the November star-shower will probably have been observed in America in November next, and when the surprising spectacle will pro-bably give rise to a new discussion of the subjects upon which those essays treat. Some recent papers by M. Daubrée on the Synthesis and Classific of the Meteorites will also then be reviewed with the best advantage. Approaching hours of daylight will probably deprive observers in the British Isles of all participation in the specially interesting dis play of the November meteors in the present year, although the stage of the gradual commencement will be better observed in England than in America. It was thus that the August meteors were nearly invisible in the present year from the hours of daylight prevailing in England, but they were visible in "countless numbers" in America soon after midnight, on the night of the 10th of August vertically downwards, completing the arch formed last. The Report then gives the observations of meteors made between half-past eleven P.M. and a second the Professor saw on his way home. A

quarter-past two A.M. on the 13th of November of last year, by Prof. Challis, by means of a small wooden meteoroscope, on a tripod stand, furnished with a straight bar about 21 inches long, and readily movable in altitude and azimuth. Of meteors doubly observed a few are recorded. The first, at an early stage of the great November shower, when bright meteors were yet uncommon, appeared nearly as bright as Venus, and was recorded by Mr. Dawes at Haddenham, in Buckinghamshire; and, almost simultaneously with it, a meteor of unusual brilliancy was seen by Mr. T. Crumplin at Primrose Hill, in London. The descriptions of its appearance at the two places are essentially the same, and evidently refer to the same object. The parallax of these observations is 12 degrees, and the height of the meteor, assuming a distance of 36 miles between the stations, is 60 miles above the surface of the Earth. The second was at 12h. 40m. 45s. A.M., at Glasgow. The meteor passed nearly over St. Andrews, in Scotland, where it appeared to consist of three parts, each equal to Venus. A part of the streak remained visible as an oval light cloud for eight minutes before it disappeared. This part of the streak was seen at an altitude of 40 degrees above the horizon at Glasgow, in the direction of St. Andrews. At the latter place it disappeared at an angle of 15 degrees from the zenith, nearly towards Glasgow. The distance between the two stations is nearly 65 miles, and the parallax of about 60 degrees corresponds to a height of not quite 50 miles. The other meteors during the November showers recorded were, one at Cardiff, 14th of November last year, at 2h. 8m. A.M., one at Hawkhurst, at 2h. 12m. 30s. A.M., one at Glasgow, at 2h. 14m. A.M., and one at 2h. 40m. 58s. at Aberdeen, all on the same day. Of the August meteors of this year, two were recorded simultane-ously, in almost the same quarter of the sky, at London and at Birmingham, on the 9th of August, at 11h. 46m. The resemblance between the two meteors was, however, casual, for the lines of sight, instead of converging towards each other rapidly, as might be expected to take place from the great distance between the stations if a single m were under consideration, actually diverged from each other to an extent of five or six degrees, and evidently point to two different meteors appearing almost simultaneously in time, and in th quarter of the sky at either place. On the 10th of August, at 10h. 57m. P.M., two bright meteors were recorded by street observers at Birmingham and London, during a period of positive scarcity of shooting-stars, and these correspond in the ap-parent place of disappearance with the supposition of a large displacement by parallax of about 45 degrees in the direction of a straight line joining Birmingham and London. The identity of the two meteors must accordingly be regarded as perfectly confirmed, although the partial view perfectly continued, although the partial view obtained at London permits only the end-point, or point of disappearance, to be fixed. This was at a height of 76 miles above the earth's surface in the neighbourhood of Bristol. Of large meteors one is recorded on the 13-14th of November, 1866, by Mr. D. Gill, of the King's College Observators at Aberdeen at 12b, 52m, 30s, AM, Greenvatory at Aberdeen, at 12h. 52m. 30s. A.M. Green-wich mean time. A Prof. Thomson describes it as a brilliant meteor of half the apparent size of the moon, of an intense white light; it rose due east of the Observatory, apparently from the sea, slowly describing a small semicircle of 3° diameter from S. to N., occupying nearly 30 seconds in doing so, and leaving behind a faint luminous track, which soon disappeared. The same observer also saw two others on the same night, one at 1h. 11m. 33s. A.M., and the second at 2h. 40m. 58s. A.M. The first was a brilliant ball of reddish colour, fully half the apparent size of the moon, and seemed to be rising from the sea directly under the star ϵ Virginis. After attaining an altitude of 8° or 10°, it seemed to arch over towards the north, describing a semicircle of about 2° radius, when the lower half of the meteor seemed to shell off, emitting a train of luminous sparks, which fell

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bright glare attracted his attention to its path, and which, as indicated by its train, appeared to have commenced somewhere between Mars and Pollux, rather nearer the latter. The nucleus passed over a Tauri, rested a little over the stars in the V, and disappeared without noise. He estimates the apparent diameter of this meteor as one-fifth that of the moon; but the intensity of its light was incomparably greater, and in its character more resembled sunlight than any other. The most remarkable feature of this meteor, however, was the train, which was of a pale yellow colour, and at first remained as a band of dense nebulous-looking light, about half a diameter of the moon in breadth, along the path of the meteor. After two minutes the train wound about and assumed a serpentinous form; after three minutes it had collected itself into a nebulous-looking cloud, which remained vividly distinct until four minutes, when it was obscured by a cloud. Prof. Grant also noted the appearance of this meteor at Glasgow, and Prof. Piazzi Smyth at Edinburgh. It was also seen at Newcastle by Mr. Barkas. A third large meteor is recorded on the 20th of November, at 4h. A.M. local time, at Nashville, Tennessee, U.S., as seen in the direction of Rome, moving rapidly south-west. It is stated to have appeared like a ball of fire as large as the sun; and as exploding seemingly ten miles off with "a tremendous report, like a 40-pounder cannon, shaking the earth and making the windows rattle." The "phenomenon," if it actually took place as described, forms an addition to the list of detonating meteors happening that the 20th of Nayamber A 66th parter was about the 20th of November. A fifth meteor was noticed in France and Switzerland on the 11th of June, at 8h. P.M. Greenwich mean time, and accounts of it have been collected by Prof. Edward Hagenbach-Bischoff at Basle, and by M. W. de Tourville at Paris. At Basle, immediately after the disappearance of the nucleus, which rested like a fixed star at the summit of its course for about half a second, there remained at the spot a small globular cloud, which rapidly extended itself, as if dissipated by an upward current of air. It then took the form of a winding, ribbon-like or irregularly spiral curve, which it preserved for the space of half an hour, and at last gradually disappeared in the approaching darkness after nine o'clock. It was seen in daylight at Paris proceeding almost horizontally, at an altitude of about 221°, from 3° W. to 34° E. of N. Comparing together the observations at Basle and Paris, Prof. Hagenbach concludes that the meteor moved from over Dunkirk to over the neighbourhood of Cambray, at a height of between 65 and 85 miles above the earth, in a direction from north-west towards south-east. Full details of this meteor are given as seen in numerous places. Another large meteor is entered in this report as observed in the Southern hemisphere, at Hobart Town, on the 25th of April, 1862, by Mr. F. Abbott, a little to the west of γ Crucis. During the time of transit the meteor gave a brilliant illumination, greater than that of full moon. The Report concludes with a volumi-nous collection of details of the celebrated November, 1866, star-shower.

Sir David Brewster had two papers, 'On the Colours of Soap Bubbles,' and 'On the Figures of Equilibrium in Liquid Films.'—He propounded the view that the prismatic colours were not due to differences in the thickness of the film, but, as he was understood to say, to the exudation of a new substance flowing over the film and expanding under the influence of gravitation.

Sir David also gave an account of the production of a substance resembling fuzed glass from the ignition of the straw in a circular passage made by a lightning stroke in a stack at Dun, in Forfar-shire, in 1827. The specimen had a greenish tinge, and contained portions of burnt hay. It has been

deposited in the Museum of St. Andrews.
On the Results of Observations of Atmospheric Electricity at Kew Observatory and at Windsor, Nova Scotia, by Dr. J. D. EVERETT.— The Kew observations included in this paper extended from June, 1862, to May, 1864, inclusive, and were taken with Sir William Thomson's self-recording apparatus; specimens of the photographic curves thus taken being exhibited at the

The Windsor observations, taken by Dr. Everett with apparatus of a different kind, also invented by Sir William Thomson, but not self-recording, extended from October, 1862, to August, 1864. Monthly averages which had been taken showed that at Kew there had in every month been two maxima in the day, one of them between eight and ten A.M., and the other, which was more considerable, between eight and ten P.M. At Windsor, on the contrary, the electricity between eight and ten P.M. had in every month been weaker than either between eight and ten A.M. or between two and three P.M. The annual curve for Kew had its principal maximum in November, and another in February or March. At Windsor the principal maximum was in February or March. the minima in June and November. The annual curves for the two places agreed pretty well

from January to October, but were curved in opposite directions from October to January. On a New Form of Dynamo-magneto Machine, by Mr. W. LADD. - The author considered that the most powerful magneto-electric machine hitherto constructed was that by Mr. Wilde, which received its charge from sixteen permanent steel magnets. Siemens and Wheatstone have since shown that the residual magnetism left in soft iron, after being under the influence of a battery or permanent steel magnets, can be augmented from the currents generated by itself, by merely applying dynamic force to the revolving armature containing a coil of copper-wire, the terminals of which are connected with the wire surrounding the electro-magnet; and, although great effects are produced, the current itself could only be made available by its partial or total disruption,—in the former case diminishing the power of the electro-magnet, and in the latter reducing it to its normal condition. But in the machine the author had constructed the power of the electro-magnet is kept up; whilst a separate current, to be applied to any useful purpose, can be drawn off by means of an independent arrangement. It consists chiefly of two plates of iron; to both ends of each is fixed a portion of a hollow cylinder; these plates are then placed at a certain distance apart, and insulated from each other in such a manner that the cylindrical pieces will form two hollow circular passages, into which spaces two Siemens armatures are placed. The plates are surrounded by a quantity of stout copperwire and connected together; the two terminals are brought into connexion with the commutator of the smaller armature, so that each change of polarity in the armature will augment its magnetism. When the machine is first made, it is only requisite to pass a current from a small cell for an instant to give the iron polarity, and after this it will retain a sufficient amount of magnetism for all future work. If the armature in connexion with the electro-magnet is made to rotate, there will be a very feeble current generated in it; this passing round the electro-magnet will increase the power with every additional impulse. It will thus be seen that the only limit to the power of the machine is the rapidity with which the armature can be made to rotate, and which is entirely dependent on the amount of dynamic force employed. But the great improvement in this machine is the introduction of the second armsture, which, although it takes off currents generated in its wire by the increased magnetism, does not at all interfere with the primary current. The machine now in the Paris Exhibition measures about 24 inches in length, 12 inches in width, and stands 7 inches high; but this one being imperfectly constructed as to its proportions, the results obtained are, no doubt, much less than they would be with a better instrument. Notwithstanding, the author had found it would keep 50 inches of platinum wire, '01-inch diametric, incandescent: and when a small voltameter was placed in circuit with the second armature, it would give off 250 cubic centimètres of gas per minute, and, in connexion with an electric regulator, would give a light equal to 35 Grove's or Bunsen's elements, the driving power expended being less than one horse. The author The author next described a machine of which the first example is now constructed. It is on essentially the same principle as the last; but instead of having

two independent armatures running in separate grooves, they are fixed end to end, so as to appear like one continuous armature, but so placed with reference to each other that their magnetic axes shall be at right angles. By this arrangement, there is only one opening required for the armature, and full advantage of the horse-shoe form of magnet can be taken. The shoes of the electro-magnet are so proportioned to each other that there is a break in the magnetic circuit with reference to each armature alternately; but by their disposition at right angles, there never is an actual break in the complete magnetic circuit, but simply a shifting occurs of the principal portion of the magnetic force from one armature to the other at the precise moment required to produce the best effect. mechanical advantages to be obtained by this disposition of parts must be at once obvious, as one pair of bearings and one set of driving gear required in the previous machine are here dispensed with; and from the fixing of the two armatures together, the currents are made to follow perfectly isochronously with each other. It may, however, be found of advantage to vary the angle of position of the armatures with reference to each other, according to the speed at which they are driven, so that the current given off by the exciting armature may at the precise moment exert its full effect upon the electro-magnet, so as to produce the best effect on the second armature.

Mr. LADD also described a small magneto-electric machine he has contructed for ordinary lecture purposes.
'On Electric Machines founded on Induction and

Convection, by Sir W. THOMSON.
On the Approximate Drawing of Circular Arcs of given Lengths, by Prof. W. J. Macquorn-RANKINE. - This paper contains rules for use in mechanical drawing, founded on the principle, that if a straight line and an indefinite number of circles in one plane touch each other at one point, the curve which cuts off parts of a given uniform length from the straight tangent and from all the circles, approximates, in the neighbourhood of the place where it cuts the straight tangent, very closely to a circular arc whose radius is three-fourths of the given uniform length. The arcs laid off according to the rules are somewhat longer than the exact length; but in an arc subtending 30° the error is only one-14,800th part of the length of the arc; and it varies nearly as the fourth power of the angle subtended by the arc.

On Finite Solutions of Algebraical Equations,'

by the Rev. R. HARLEY. 'On the Inverse Problem of Co-resolvents,' by the Hon. J. COCKLE, M.A.—Inverse problems, as is well known, present greater difficulties than direct ones. For instance, while it is easy to square a number, it is not so easy to extract its square root. Moreover, there are cases in which it is impossible to obtain a finite solution of an inverse problem. The solution of a quintic is usually considered to be such a case. In the theory of coresolvents it is comparatively easy to pass from the algebraical to the differential resolvent, but the converse does not hold. The finite integration of the linear differential resolvent of a given algebraical equation would, perhaps, be a step towards the general solution of the inverse problem. But that integration has not yet been effected, except in two or three special cases; and the definite integrals of Boole have not, that I am aware of, been converted into indefinite ones. In order to take the step above pointed to, it seems to me necessary to have recourse to a non-linear differential resolvent, to be constructed as follows: the elements of the final non-linear are three; the first is (1) the second differential co-efficient of the dependent variable; the second is (2) the first differential co-efficient of that variable; the third is (3) the square of the second element divided by the dependent variable itself. The sinister of the non-linear resolvent is constituted by the six homogeneous quadratic products of the three elements, and is the sum of those six products, each multiplied into an indeterminate or conditional multiplier. Each element and each product is, as we know by the theory of co-resolvents, in general capable of being expressed as a rational and integral function of the dependent variable, of a degree less by one than that of the given algebraic equation. Suppose this last equation to be a quartic, then each product, and, consequently, the dexter of the non-linear resolvent, can be expressed as a cubic function of the dependent variable. Let the dexter of the non-linear be reduced to zero by causing the several co-efficients of the cube, the square and the first power of the dependent variable, and also the absolute term, to vanish separately. These four conditions, while they reduce the dexter of the non-linear to zero, enable us to eliminate four of the indeterminate multipliers from its sinister. No elevation of degree will arise from the elimination, for all these four conditions are linear. The co-efficients of the six homogeneous quadratic products on the sinister will now in general be homogeneous linear functions of the two uneliminated, indeterminate multipliers; and, by the solution of a cubic only, the ratio of these two multipliers can be so assigned as to cause the sinister to break up into linear factors, each factor being a linear and homogeneous function of the elements. If we apply the exponential substitution to either of these factors equated to zero, the resulting final non-linear differential equations of the first order are of a soluble form. We have thus constructed a soluble non-linear differential resolvent of a general biquadratic. For a cubic we might dispense with one of the homogeneous products, and, consequently, with one of the indeterminate multipliers; but we should thus be led to a resulting cubic; and it will be better to retain the whole six terms of the sinister. We shall then. having only three conditions of evanescence to satisfy on the dexter, be able to break up the sinister into linear factors, as before, by means of a homogeneous cubic in the three remaining disposable indeterminate multipliers. Applying to this last cubic the method of vanishing groups, we see that its solution depends upon the solution of a quadratic equation and the extraction of a cube root only. In the case of a quartic, the integral obtained by the foregoing processes involves two arbitrary constants only, and its nature and extent require further discussion. But it seems that, by means of the theory of co-resolvents, we obtain new methods of solving algebraic equations up to the fourth degree inclusive; and, although the above discussion does not embrace equations whose degrees exceed four, it apparently indicates that further results may spring from the study of non-linear differential resolvents.

Mr. A. CLAUDET read a paper 'On a Mechanical Means of producing the Differential Motion required to Equalize the Focus for the Different Planes of a Solid.'—When a solid figure is brought too near the object-glass of a camera obscura, the difference of focus for its various planes is comparatively so great that it is impossible that all the images should be equally well defined. Hence, in the case of photographic portraiture, there is a want of harmony in the representation of the various parts; some are too sharply delineated, and others are confused in proportion as they are more and more distant from the plane in focus. But there is another defect which is the consequence of the difference of distance of the various planes bearing too great a proportion to the distance of the whole, which is that the nearest parts of the figure are too much enlarged, and the furthest too much reduced. Some time since, the author proposed to obviate these defects by bringing all the planes consecutively into focus, by moving, during the exposure, the tube of the lens or the back frame of the camera; the consequence of which was an equality of effect and that kind of softness in the picture so much approved by artists. The original simple idea presented several difficulties not easily overcome. The greatest of these was that, in changing the focal distances merely by moving the frame or the tube, the size of the various superposed images was unavoidably reduced or increased according to the alteration of focus during the movement applied. The author, therefore, sought for a means of avoiding this defect; and a fortunate idea presented itself, by which it was possible to preserve the size of the various images during the adaptation of the focus to the different planes of the figure. This

desideratum was, when changing the focus, to the friction of the various parts of the instrument increase the power of the double lens for the planes the most distant, and to reduce it for the nearest The power of any double combination of lenses being proportionate to the distance which separates the two lenses, greater when they are more separated and smaller when they are less separated, it was possible, therefore, to alter the power of the combination by changing the distance between the two lenses. By this means it is possible not only to equalize the definition of the various planes, but at the same time to equalize the size of their images. and consequently to avoid the exaggeration of perspective by which the nearest planes are increased and the furthest disproportionately reduced—a defect so constantly detrimental to the appearance of large photographs taken in the ordinary way. M. Voigtländer, the celebrated optician, wishing to investigate the question from a higher mathematical point of view, charged Dr. Sommer, Professor of Mathematics at the Carolinian College of Brunswick, to calculate the result of the gradual increase and reduction of the power of the double combination, in conjunction with the alteration of focus. Dr. Sommer sent a series of elaborate formulæ, showing that, although for all practical purin photography the movement of one of the two lenses, as proposed, fulfilled the object in view, still that a more scientific consideration of the subject called for a modification in the plan; which was that, instead of moving only one of the lenses, the same degree of their separation should be imparted by moving the two lenses in contrary directions from the fixed centre of the combination, and in different proportions, according to the distance of the object. These differential proportions were indicated in a table calculated by Dr. Sommer. Here was another difficult and unexpected problem, the solution of which was perplexing. Not liking that it should be said that his plan was not completely in accordance with the mathematical laws of optics, the author has devised a mechanical means, by which he can avail himself of the scientific calculations of Dr. Sommer, and by which the differential movement can be effected, not only as readily and easily, but with a greater command and steadiness than by moving only one lens. The following is the arrangement :- The tube, containing at each end the lenses, is divided into two parts, sliding in the principal tube, which is fixed in the front of the camera. Each tube has a strong pin. These two pins are intended to push the tubes to and fro from the centre of the combination, by means of a sextant, having two slits, cut at an angle of 36°. The sextant, being mounted on a sliding bar, fixed in a socket holding to the tube, can be made to move to and fro by means of a rack and pinion moved by a handle. While the sextant moves, the two slits will act on the two pins, and gradually increase the separation of the tubes; and on making the sextant move back, the slits will bring the two pins nearer each other, and decrease the separation of the tubes. Thus it is easy to increase and reduce the separation of the two lenses from the centre of the combination. The differential movement, according to the mathematical formulæ calculated by Dr. Sommer, is thus effected. The arc of the sextant is divided into 100 parts, in two rows, one against the other. The divisions on the outer limb have their zero on the left, and the 100 divisions on the right; on the inside limb the divisions are in a contrary direction. By means of an endless screw acting on the toothed edge of the sextant, it can be moved on its horizontal axis, so that any of its divisions may be brought under the index. Supposing that by the table of Dr. Sommer, one lens for a certain distance of the object should move 0.235, and the other 0.765 of the whole space by which the lenses require to be separated or approximated, we turn endless screw until the index is on the 231 division of the inside scale, and of course on the 761 division of the outside scale. In that position of the sextant, the slits, by means of the pins attached to the tubes of the lenses, will make them accordingly move one lens in the proportion of 0.235, and the other in the proportion of 0.765 of the whole space. In the construction of the apparatus it was necessary to reduce to its minimum

and to render the action as smooth and easy as possible; otherwise, the force necessary to overcome resistance would almost inevitably cause vibration of the whole apparatus, and thereby of the optical image on the sensitive surface, and consequently confusion in the ultimate formation of the photographic picture. This Mr. Claudet has now perfectly accomplished, and the portraits exhibited by him to the Section are the most pictorial of any

specimens of the photographic art as yet produced.

Mr. CLAUDET also exhibited a curious phenomenon in binocular vision, produced by the twirling of a card, having the letters of a word alternately placed on the front and on the back; the appearance produced by the rotation being that the letters of one-half the word appeared very considerably darker and in advance of those of the other half, which appeared fainter, and some considerable distance to the rear.

SECTION B.—CHEMICAL SCIENCE.

FRIDAY

'On the present Uses of Lichens as Dye Stuffs,'

by Mr. L. LINDSAY.

'On the Existence of Putrescible Matter in River and Lake Waters,' by Mr. J. A. WANKLYN.

'A Note on Messrs. Wanklyn, Chapman and Smith's Method of determining Nitrogenous Organic Matters in Water,' by Mr. D. CAMPBELL.

'On an Ether Anemometer for measuring the Speed of Air in Flues and Chimneys,' by Mr. A. E. FLETCHER.

'On a Self-Registering Perpetual Aspirator,' by Mr. A. E. FLETCHER.

'On an Apparatus for indicating the Pressure and Amount of Fire-Damp in Mines,' by Mr. G. ANSELL

' Notes of the Analyses of Gold Coins,' by Prof. LAWSON.

SECTION C .- GEOLOGY.

FRIDAY.

'On the Gradual Alteration of the Coast Line in Norfolk,' by Mr. J. WYATT.—This paper described the result of observation on the changing coast-line in Norfolk; and as others had for several years past called attention to the waste and erosion by the sea constantly in progress, the author showed that the geological changes in this part of the island were not all to the loss of the nation. On the contrary, he proved that in West Norfolk there was a continual addition to the area. A secondary object of the paper was to enforce the necessity of accurate records of the changes of coast-lines, and the author suggested that this should not be left to individual observation, but should be undertaken by a responsible department of the Government, who should combine the two systems adopted by the Ordnance and Admiralty surveyors, and so secure by periodical surveys accurate maps of the changing line of the coasts, the fluctuation of the levels of the sea-bottoms, and the nature of the deposits within a given distance of the shore.

On the Cambrian Rocks of Llanberis, with reference to a Break in the Conformable Succession of the Lower Beds,' by Mr. G. MAW.
'On the Geology of India,' by Dr. Oldham.

Dr. Oldham described the geology of India, and gave details regarding the chief geological features of that country, so far as they had been discovered by his investigations.

Mr. MANOCKJEE CURSETJEE assured the Sec-Mr. MANOGREE CUREFIEL assured the Section that such information as that which had been searched for and obtained by Dr. Oldham was capable of conferring incalculable benefit on the people of India. In that country there was everything in the way of resources that Nature could produce; the great thing that was wanting was enterprise on the part of the natives, and that could only be successfully promoted by learned professors and gentlemen from this country.

'An Account of the Progress of the Geological Survey of Scotland,' by Mr. Geikie.—Mr. Geikie showed the mode in which the survey is carried on, describing particularly the manner of filling in the geological features of each district of the country on the Ordnance Survey Maps. The lucid description of the mode of working out the geological features the country showed the excellent manner in which that work is done, and gave practical proof of the able hands in which the superintendence of the survey is placed. 3,000 square miles altogether have already been surveyed. Hitherto the work has been kept back by the smallness of the staff and the defective arrangements of the Ordnance Survey; but the staff has now been largely increased, and as many of the Ordnance Survey Maps, for the want of which the work was nearly at a stand, are now ready, the work will be much more rapidly proceeded with.

'Third Report on Fossil Crustacea,' by Mr. H.

WOODWARD.

On the Lower Lias, and Traces of an Ancient Rhætic Shore in Lincolnshire,' by Mr. F. M. BURTON

'On the Norfolk Chalk-marl,' by Mr. J. E.

TAYLOR

On the Mammalian Remains from the Submerged Forest in Barnstaple Bay, Devonshire, by Mr. H. S. Ellis.

SECTION D.-BIOLOGY.

FRIDAY.

Department of Zoology and Botany.

Remarks on the Entozoa of the common Fowl

and of Game Birds, in their supposed relation to the Grouse Disease, by Dr. Cobbold.

'On the Boring of Limestones by certain Amelids,' by Mr. E. RAY LANKESTER.—The author stated that, in the discussion relating to the begins of reallying to reference but he begins of reallying. boring of molluscs, no reference had been made to the boring of annelids-indeed, they seemed to be quite unknown; and he now brought forward two cases, one by a worm called Leucodore, the other by a Sabella. Leucodore is very abundant on some shores, where boulders and pebbles may be found worm-eaten and riddled by them. Only stones composed of carbonate of lime are bored by them. On coasts where such stones are rare they are selected, and all others are left. The worms are quite soft, and armed only with horny bristles. How, then, do they bore? Mr. Lankester maintained that it was by the carbonic acid and other acid excretions of their bodies, aided by the mechanics. ical action of their bristles. The selection of a material soluble in these acids is most noticeable, since the softest chalk and the hardest limestone are bored with the same facility. This can only be by chemical action. If, then, we have a case chemical boring in these worms, is it not probable that many molluscs are similarly assisted in their excavations? Mr. Lankester did not deny the mechanical action in the pholas and other shells, but maintained that in many cases the co-operation of acid excreta was probable. The truth was to be found in a theory which combined the chemical and the mechanical view.

A discussion followed, in which Mr. SPENCE BATE and Mr. BRADY supported Mr. Lankester's views, whilst Mr. GWYN JEFFREYS, Dr. M'INTOSH,

and the CHAIRMAN opposed them.

'On the future Administration of the Natural History Collections of the British Museum,' by Mr. A. MURRAY.—Mr. Murray considered that the announcement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that he would early in the next session of Parliament submit a scheme for the separation of the Natural History collections of the British Museum from the Library and other collections, as so likely to be carried into effect, that the proper time had arrived for pressing on Government the necessity of some changes in the administration of that institution. The most important of these changes was the transfer of the control of the Museum from the Board of Trustees to a single officer appointed by Government and amenable to Par-liament. While admitting the good which the Trustees had done, and that their intentions had always been to benefit the institution, he maintained that the constitution of the board, composed of men who, with one or two exceptions, felt no interest in natural history, rendered it impossible that they could do it justice. They naturally handed over their power to their chief officers, who were thus invested with power without respon-

sibility and beyond appeal. The Board, from the same causes, were slow to alter the existing order of things, or to make the necessary changes requisite by change of circumstances and times. He the following illustration of this phase of their rule:—When the Museum was young and within manageable bounds, it was placed under one or two head curators, minerals and fossils under one head, and zoology under another. Each of these heads was allowed an assistant, and it was made a rule that these assistants should not be above thirty years of age; the idea being that they should be a sort of apprentices, who should begin young, and, on their respective superior's deces or retirement, be ready to take his place. This rule in itself was not a bad one. It secured always one good man and one learning to become a good man. If the superior officer died before his assistant was qualified to succeed him, it was not essential that the assistant should be put into his place; and as the regulation as to age applied only to assistants, it was no barrier in the way of putting an older man in the upper place. But as the collection grew, it was found that more heads were wanted, and then came the error. Instead of appointing new heads coequal with the previous heads for each department, the number of assistant curators was increased, and one set apart to each different department, so that the assistants, instead of being there to learn, as had been the case, were at once put in the position of teachers—distributors of knowledge. We shall pass over without inquiry how long it took them to See the consequences at the become competent. present day. Each department had, and has now, only one man to it. If any of them die or retire, there is no person to take their work; and being nominally assistant curators, although practically head curators, no one can be appointed to their place who is above thirty years of age—in other words, no one who knows his business; for, as the late Rev. Hamlet Clark says, in a publication to which I have had to refer, "Natural Sciences are like poetry or music or painting in this respect, that with regard to them it cannot be predicated of any untried aspirant that he will succeed; and, moreover, they are so vast, that to attain proficiency in the study of them would require a lifetime. Hence, to constitute youth in such appointments a sine qud non, is really to say that the candidate must be appointed before he has acquired them, and before he has shown any power of acquiring them." The British Museum has thus the unenviable distinction of being the sole place in the whole world where ignorance of a man's duties is not an impediment to his appointment,-not only no impediment, but a qualification—nay, not only a qualification, but actually a sine quâ non. Had the Trustees seen the working of this, they would, instead of appointing assistant curators, have appointed head curators, with such assistant curators as were necessary And then for each department requiring it we should have had two officers-one a competent, experienced man of position and weight in the scientific world, the other a young assistant, to whose charge ignorance of his duties could not be laid, seeing that his duties were to learn, not to teach. Mr. Murray considered it plain that we must come back to this original arrangement. These so-called assistant curators, who have long administered their respective departments with credit to themselves and the Museum, must be recognized as head curators, and assistant curators, properly so called, supplied to them; while head curators, selected from the best ranks of men of science, should be appointed to those other departments which require them. Before leaving the staff, he begged to draw attention to one point regarding them which seemed to call loudly for amendment: it was the constant interruption from the stream of scientific visitors to which the assistant curators The subjects under their care are so numerous that every day brings a succession of visitors—not the general public, but men eminent in science, to whom it would be impossible to deny admission. The curators, of course, have to receive and attend to them, and their attention is thus constantly broken in upon and diverted from their scientific duties. It is impossible that the young men can ever acquire a scientific knowledge of

their functions while subjected to this. They will their functions while subjected to this. They will acquire a superficial smattering; but their mind will be frittered away by trifling conversation, and all power of concentrated application inevitably The whole of the curators of the inver tebrate collections are congregated along with draughtsmen, foreign students, &c., in one stuffy room, choking with useless camphor. Into this camphorated apartment every visitor comes. Of course quiet for reflection, or an uninterrupted moment for continuous study, is out of the question. This is very bad-Maxima reverentia debetur pueris; and to expose young men full of the hope of future scien. tific eminence, but with their habits of study not yet formed, and conformed to a system which may vitiate and ruin their whole future, is a fault of serious magnitude. Every man should have a room for himself, and the assistants should take it by days in turn to receive the public, and keep them off their comrades. As at present carried on, what with the never interrupted sameness of the work, and the constant interruptions of visitors, I declare it is to me a marvel that any one of the assistants has spent ten years of his life exposed to it without

being driven insane.

'On some Points in the Anatomy of Thysanura, by Sir J. LUBBOCK, Bart.—The author remarked that the thysanura, though extremely numerous, and in many cases very pretty little creatures, had and in many cases very preuty name attracted but little attention, owing, perhaps, to their great delicacy and the consequent difficulty of preserving them in a satisfactory condition. Under any decaying log of wood, under damp leaves, in long grass, in short, in almost any damp situation, the thysanura form no small proportion of the population. Like other insects, they have six legs, but they never acquire wings. The tail is provided with two long appendages, which are bent forward under the body, and thus form a spring, by means of which the animal is enabled to interpret the second of the second their great delicacy and the consequent diffito jump with great activity. A smynthurus, for instance, measuring one-tenth of an inch in diameter, will easily jump up twelve inches in the air. This, however, is due mainly, not to muscular power, but to the elasticity of the spring. power, but the elasticity of the spring, In-muscles draw the spring forward and bring it under a small latch or catch. Directly this is relaxed, the elasticity of the organ jerks the spring back, and throws the creature upwards and forwards. The author described in detail the muscles by which the spring is moved. Another remarkable peculiarity in the thysanura is the presence, on the first abdominal ring, of a process which acts as a sucker in the Poduridæ, and in smynthurus gives rise to two long filaments which serve the same purpose. The author described the arrangements of the muscles by which this curious apparatus is moved. He then described the digestive and respiratory organs; and after pointing out that smynthurus and papirius, though very nearly allied in external character, differ entirely in their method of respiration, the latter genus being almost or entirely deficient in tracheæ, he proposed, therefore, to form for it a new family, which he

proposed to call Papiridæ.

'Is Lichen Growth any Criterion of the Age of Pre-historic Structures?' by Dr. L. LINDSAY.

'Is Lichen Growth Detrimental to Forest and

Fruit Trees?' by Dr. L. LINDSAY.
'On Polliniferous Ovules in a Rose,' by Dr. M. T. MASTERS.

Mr. C. MARTINS exhibited specimens of the aerial roots of Tussica repens, and specimens of the plant cultivated under different biological conditions.

'On certain Simulations of Vegetable Growths,'

by Dr. HEATON.

'On the Occurrence of Aster salignus (Willd.) in Wicken Fen, Cambridgeshire,' by Mr. W. P. Hiern.—Wicken Fen, about ten miles from Cambridge, is a large, wild, uncultivated tract of peat overlying a basin of gault, producing sedge, and cut up with ditches. On the 23rd of August last, the writer found growing, in an apparently wild state, on the fen, several plants (which he refers to Willdenow), a species of Aster salignus. This species is nearly the only one out of about seventy closely allied Asters, and is a native of Europe, while the rest are American. It grows wild in Germany and Nº 20 Denma and the such a ordinar escape have th has be Prof.

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Denmark, in many places by the banks of rivers, and therefore might probably occur in Britain in such a locality as Wicken Fen. It is not a plant in ordinary cultivation, and could not, therefore, easily ecape from a garden. Specimens from Wickenhave the habits of wild plants. A living specimen has been placed in the Cambridge Botanical Garden. A specimen accompanied this paper.

Prof. DICKSON exhibited an abnormal leaf.

Department of Anatomy and Physiology.

Prof. C. MARTINS exhibited an Osteological Preparation, with Photographs, to illustrate the Comparison of Limbs deduced by the Torsion of

On the Adaptation of the Structure of the Shell of the Bird's Egg to the Function of Respiration,'
by Dr. OGILVIE.—The principal object of this
paper was to call attention to the constant occurrence of a cavernous stratum on the interior of the shell of the egg, formed by a series of warty excres-cences from the calcareous crust, and covered in by the lining membrane of the shell, which adheres so intimately to the points of the tubercles that a fleecy film is always left when the membrane is torn off from the inside of the shell, and in many cases can be removed only by burning it off by calcination, though the nature of the structure may be shown in other ways, as by sections and the use of aniline, which tinge the fibrous tissue, with little or no effect on the shell proper. The penetration of the external air into the cavernous structure, through the overlying stratum of the calcareous crust, is facilitated by the pore-like pits on the outside of the shell, which, though in many cases they do not go directly much below the surface, yet may be shown by the permeation of coloured liquids to furnish an indirect communication with the vacuities of the deep layer, either by fissures or cracks passing between them, or by the more pervious nature of the intervening tract. This general arrangement of an upper compact and a lower cavernous stratum has a certain analogy with the structure of the internal tissue of leaves—amounting, indeed, in some cases to so close a resemblance that one might readily compare the shell of some chelonian reptiles to the parenchyma of a leaf which had undergone calcifi cation; and, as in the egg-shell we have the pore like pits on the outer surface to facilitate the permeation of the air to the subjacent stratum, so in floating leaves, which have their stomata on the upper epidermis, we generally have some arrangement to lessen the obstructive influence of the laver of compact tissue between them and the spongy parenchyma below. Of this perhaps we have the most striking example in the large tapering bells in the leaf of the White Water Lily, which, when exposed to the action of an aniline dye, become very conspicuous objects from the readiness with which they take in the colour They somewhat resemble a series of nails driven through the compact tissue, with their flattened heads immediately under the stomata and their points projecting into the air spaces below. As another example of such an arrangement, reference was made to the vacuity under each stomatic opening in the upper layer of parenchyma, in the leaf of the common pond weed.

'A Contribution to the Anatomy of the Pilot Whale,' by Prof. TURNER .- The author described the anatomy of the stomach, the distribution of the great arteries which arise from the arch of the aorta and some features in the cervical vertebræ of the of which he had dissected during the spring and summer of this year. The stomach of the pilot whale was compared with that of the porpoise, and it was pointed out that in the former a greater

number of compartments existed than in the latter. 'Vocal and other Influences upon Mankind, from Pendency of the Epiglottis,' by Sir Duncan GIBB.—The author gave the results of his examination with the laryngoscope of 4,600 healthy persons, of all ages, both sexes, and varying positions of life, which showed that in 513 the epiglottis was found to be quite pendent, in place of a vertical position. He determined that this was hereditary in many instances, for it was found in the mother and

her child. This made the per-centage to be eleven amongst Europeans, but it was found to be much greater in the natives of Asia and Africa, 280 of whom he had examined. The influences observed in Europeans were a modification of the natural voice, which tended towards a bass tone in adult males; the singing voice was materially altered, and in the female sex the higher notes could not be and in the termine sex the higher notes could not be produced at all in some persons, whilst in others it weakened their vocal power and compass. The author had never known a great female singer to possess a pendent epiglottis. He contrasted the direction of the voice in cases of erect and pendent epiglottis; in the latter the voice strikes the back epiglottis; in the latter the voice strikes the back of the throat, behind, instead of in front of the soft palate. Young girls with pendency can never expect to become singers of any note, unless it be remedied, and in them, and in boys too, the voice is not clear and silvery as it ought to be. Certain constitutional peculiarities were also noticed, and there was a predisposition to contract the exanthemata and other diseases of an epidemic nature. The author concluded by referring to the large number of pendencies in Britain, over 3,000,000, and the means to be taken to remedy it.

An active discussion ensued. 'Notes of Experiments with Poisons, &c., on Young Salmon,' by Dr. M'INTOSH.
'On Protagon in relation to the Molecular Theory

of Organization, by Prof. BENNETT.
On some Effects produced by applying Extreme Cold to certain parts of the Nervous System, by Dr. B. W. RICHARDSON.

SECTION E .- GEOGRAPHY AND ETHNOLOGY.

FRIDAY.

'Report of the Palestine Exploration Fund,' by
Capt. C. W. Wilson, R. E.—The Report was confined to a statement of the manner in which the sum of 100*l.*, granted last year to the Fund by the British Association, had been expended. Half of it had Association, had been expended. That of it had been applied towards paying the expenses of Lieut. Warren, R.E., who had charge of the second expedition sent out by the society. The results might be stated as follows: the construction of a map, on a scale of one inch to a mile, of the high-land districts of Judæa, to the north-east and south-west of Jerusalem; of the Jordan valley for about sixteen miles north of the Dead Sea; and of a large portion of the plains of Philistia. These surveys, combined with those made in 1865-6 by surveys, combined with those made in 1865-6 by Wilson and Anderson; gave, for the first time, materials for a correct map of more than three-fourths of the Holy Land, and do much towards removing the reproach that no trustworthy map existed of this most interesting country. The second half of the grant, applied to the purchase of meteorological instruments, had been expended under the superintendence of Mr. Glaisher, and four sets of instruments had been sent to different cities in Palestine. The observations taken at these cities in Palestine. The observations taken at these places will, combined with those taken at Jerusa-lem, form the basis of an accurate knowledge of the climate of the Holy Land, so remarkable in many respects.

"Accent Discoveries in and around the Site of the Temple at Jerusalem," by Capt. C. W. WILSON, R. E.—The paper gave a detailed description of the examination, made by Lieut. Warren, of the inclosure Haram esh Sharif, which contains within its walls the site of the Jewish Temple, and, as some hold, also that of the Holy Sepulchre. With the exception of a deep hollow in front of the Golden Gate, a slight rise towards the north-west corner, and the raised platform in the centre, the surface of the area is almost level, and has an elevation of 2.419 feet above the sea-level. During the progress of the survey a large arch, connecting the Haram area with the causeway, was discovered north of the Wailing Place. The arch is one of the most perfect and magnificent remains in the city.

Much information was also obtained concerning the ancient water-supply, which was admirably arranged. The water was brought by an aqueduct from the Pools of Solomon, and stored in rock-hewn cisterns, with connecting channels and arrangements for overflow. Several of the cisterns were found to be of great size, varying from twenty-five to fifty feet in height.

'Notes of a Reconnaissance of some Portions of Palestine made in 1865-66, for the Palestine Exploration Fund,' by Lieut Anderson, R.E.— The reconnaissance survey commenced at Baneas, near the source of the most important tributary of the Jordan. The latitude was carefully fixed, the position of the junction of the Jordan and Baneas streams determined, and the places con-nected by compass-bearings. A base was thus obtained on which to frame the triangulation to the mountains on both sides of the valley. From Baneas an azimuth line was observed to a prominent peak about ten miles distant on the west side of the valley, and the latitude of the survey camp at the village of Hunin, near the peak, determined. From Hunin the watershed was followed, which for topographical reconnaissance afforded great facilities, as a clear view was always obtained to great ties, as a clear view was always obtained to great distances east and west, and all important places visible within eight or ten miles were fixed by triangulation. The next camp was fixed at Kedes, and connected with that of Hunin by an azimuth line. The survey then removed to the village of Alma, overlooking the lake of Huleh, eighteen miles distant from Baneas, and the line of azimuths connected hence with the watershed of Kefe Britan Brubartions were made to the next. Kefr Birim. Explorations were made to the north, Ketr Birim. Explorations were made to the north, twelve or fifteen miles, and all mountain tops and villages within access visited and surveyed. To the south of Kefr Birim, the culminating highlands of Upper Galilee, which had never been previously examined, were thoroughly explored. From Jebel Jurmuk, about 4,000 feet above the sea-level, Cape Carmel could be distinctly seen. The next camp was pitched at Safed. Safed Castle has a post extensive view in every direction except. most extensive view in every direction, except north-east, where a hill 200 feet higher intervenes. A triangulation and survey of the whole of the Sea of Galilee and adjoining mountains was next made. The reconnaissance was extended about eight miles to the westward of the village of Allaboon, and proceeding southward, embraced the country over which the Crusaders made their disastrous march from Sepphoris to Kurn Hattin. From Nazareth Wely a view was obtained over the beautiful plain of Esdraelon, and observations made to many points, including others to Mount Ebal, thirty-five miles further south. As far south as Jeuin the watershed was explored and mapped out to the bend of the Leontes, about sixty miles distant in a straight line. The watershed to the eastward of Nablus had not yet been explored by any traveller. The survey of the watershed was commenced again a little north of Mount Ebal, and explored continuously as far as Jerusalem, which is situated, itself, on the main watershed of which is situated, itself, on the main watershed of the country. The reconnaissance was extended through the Bedouin country to the Jordan, and the much-disputed position of Jisr Damieh con-nected with the sites previously fixed. The country to the eastward of Nablus was visited and mapped; Jebel Azur, Mount Gerizim, Mount Ebal and Kurn Turtabeh, were also connected with the survey; and it was finally protracted to Jaffa, thus establishing a connexion between this place and

Generations on the Livingstone Search Expedition now in Progress, by Sir R. I. MURCHISON, Bart.—Extracts from a despatch of Commodore Purvis, on the South African station, were read, stating that Mr. Young and the search party left the sasaing that arr. Young and the search party left the Cape of Good Hope on the 16th of July in H.M.S. Petrel for the Zambesi. Two native Africans joined the party at Cape Town, and a whale-boat from the naval yard was fitted out for Mr. Young's use, in addition to the iron boat he took with him. Sir Roderick took occasion to repeat at some length the arguments which he had before used in support of the view that the evidence at present adduced was not sufficient to warrant the belief in the death of Dr. Livingstone. It was necessary, he thought, to relate again the facts of the case, as the President of the Section, in his opening remarks, had strongly expressed the contrary view. The story at present rested solely on the testimony of the man Moosa, who states that he alone saw the great traveller struck down; and this man was proved to have given to another member of the expedition (a Sepoy) a totally different version. No further news had

arrived from Africa, nor had any of the faithful Christian negroes forming Livingstone's body-guard yet been heard of, although they would have naturally found their way to the coast had the expelling a property of the coast had the expelli

dition come to an end by the death of their chief.
'On the Lagoons of Corsica,' by Prof. D. T. Ansten.—The eastern coast of Corsica is the most malarious district in the Mediterranean; but this has only been the case within the historic period. 2,000 years ago there was a defensible town on the coast called Aleria, and 120 years later a Roman colony was established there, the seat of a large trade. This continued, and the coast was inhabited till the Middle Ages, when the pirates of the Mediterranean forced the inhabitants back into the hills. In the early part of the sixteenth century the plains ceased to be habitable, and they have never since been without deadly malaria in the summer. Mariana, another ancient and mediæval colony near the lagoon of Biguglia, had also been deserted. To the north of the sites of both these ancient towns extends a lagoon, formerly, in all probability, an open bay. The fine sand and mud of the rivers and watercourses are carried towards the north, and form a bar or wall of sand in advance of the coast. Behind this bar, wherever there are torrents between the rivers, a pool or lagoon is formed,—these torrents not being able to keep open a channel to the sea. But a communication must be kept up, partly to enable the surplus waters to escape to the ocean during winter, and partly to admit the sea to the pool when, during summer, the contents are evaporated. Meanwhile, all the organic matter brought down by the torrents is retained in the lagoon, decomposes there, and is converted into miasmatic vapour. So long as there is free communication to the sea there is no malaria; but when the lagoon is formed malaria sets in. The lagoon of Biguglia extends 8 miles towards the north; its greatest width is about 11 mile. The wall or bank separating the lagoon from the sea is from 900 to 400 yards wide, and its height is about 9 feet above the level of the Mediterranean. There are two cuts, which are now filled up. The deepest part of the lagoon is 10 feet, and much of it is not more than 3 feet. The water is nearly fresh in winter, and everywhere brackish in summer. The lagoon receives the drainage of 45,000 acres, and contains itself 4,800 acres. The quantity of rain averages 24 inches per annum, of which 6 inches fall in November and 4 inches in October. More than 2 inches has fallen in 24 hours, nearly 4 inches in a week, and about 12 inches in 4 weeks. From a consideration of these measurements, it is evident that the lagoon might rise 6 inches in 24 hours, and as much as 3 feet in a month, if it were not for the outlet to the sea: a channel will thus always be kept open. 2,000 years ago the mud and sand of the Golo had not formed a bar in front of the bay, -the shore of which was within the inner shore of the lagoon. There was no effectual barrier preventing the waters of the torrents reaching the sea until three centuries ago. Thus, within 1,700 years there has been commenced and completed a bank of sand 7 miles in length, a quarter of a mile wide, and about 15 feet high,—the result of two rivers, the Golo and the Bevinco. The deposit is equivalent to about 75 grains of solid matter deposited on an average by each gallon of water. There is no evidence of any elevation of land within the recent or historic period that can explain the change that has taken place. It is evident that the lagoon has been formed by the accumulated sands and mud, and that the malaria is due to the closing of the lagoon. It is in the highest degree desirable that these lagoons should be got rid of or rendered innocuous. This can be done in the lagoon of Biguglia by separating the area into two unequal parts. The larger area might be drained by pumping, at a moderate cost, and kept dry by the same machinery occasionally used. Part of the smaller area might be converted into the channel of the Bevinco, and the rest drained by inexpensive machinery. The redeemed lands would be of great value, but the principal result would be felt in the improvement of the sanitary state of the adjoining districts. The experience of Mr. Bateman in Minorca seems to prove that malaria may be removed by the drainage of lagoons, and the sur-

rounding population raised thereby from their present state of apathy and stagnation.

'On the Vlakhs of Mount Pindus,' by Major R. STUART, C.B.—There are fair grounds for believing that the Pindic Vlakhs are descendants of one or more of those tribes which, in the fifth and succeeding centuries, were driven from their homes on the Lower Danube by the incursion of overpowering hordes from the north and east. Their language, although corrupt and debased, with alloys of Sclavic, Greek, and Turkish, still retains the essential characteristics of a Latin dialect; and the syntax and inflections of the verbs still conform in a remarkable degree to the ancient model. Heads and faces of unquestionably Roman type are found amongst them. Sixty years ago there were about 500 Vlakhiote villages, none very small, dispersed throughout the mountains of Epirus, Thessaly, and Macedonia. At present it would be difficult to reckon up half that number, and the population has dwindled to about 45,000 souls. Originally a pastoral people, they have gradually become traders, and most of their chief towns are now centres of commerce and industry. These are Vlakho-Livadhi, near Mount Olympus, Voskopolis of the Dessarets, Metzovo, Syraku, and Calabrites. In the beginning of the present century, Calabrites counted nearly 600 families, and it became known throughout the Levant for the industry, enterprise, and literary culture of its inhabitants. They were self-governed, and free of all Turkish imposts by paying a fixed and moderate annual tribute. This state of things became changed a few years later, by the tyrannous intervention of Ali Pasha Tepeleni, under whose rapacious exactions the community rapidly sunk into poverty and ruin. The story of Calabrites is, with slight variation, that of most of the chief towns of the western Vlakhs. Metzovo was founded by a Vlakh colony as early as the tenth century. It now contains 770 houses, and is the chief town of the Pindic Vlakhs. For several centuries the Vlakhs have been staunch in their adherence to the Eastern Church. In every central village a school is maintained at the expense of the community, the course of instruction embracing Modern Greek, reading, writing, and the first rules of arithmetic. But education is confined to the male sex. The Vlakh woman is treated as an inferior being, and from early years is habituated to drudgery and toil: she is naturally robust and handsome. Numbers of Vlakh women come every autumn to Janina, where they contend with the Jews as street-porters. Like all other pastoral tribes, the Vlakhs have their music; and their favourite instrument is a pipe $(\phi \lambda \sigma \gamma \epsilon \rho a)$, made from the wing-bone of the vulture, open at both ends, and pierced with six holes, all on the same side. The player inserts one end into the side of the mouth, and produces notes which may be varied from sharp and shrill to soft and pleasing. The nomade Scythians of old used to play on a similar instrument. The Vlakhs are superior to the Greeks in foresight, perseverance, and application. The lineaments of the old race are not yet lost. Though quiet and inoffensive, when roused to action they give proofs of great daring and enterprise,

'On the Mining District of Chontales, Nicaragua,' by Capt. Bedford Pim, R.N.—In its physical aspect, Nicaragua may be divided into three longitudinal sections-1. The Atlantic side, which is, for the most part, low and alluvial, intersected by numerous rivers, having bars at their mouths, with lagoons inside affording an almost uninterrupted water navigation. The land is everywhere rich, and well adapted to the production of Sea-Island cotton. 2. The Pacific side, having precipitous shores, and no river worthy of the name. The region is eminently volcanic, and destitute of minerals. A curious feature is the number and extent of the lakes spread over its surface, including Lake Nicaragua, 90 miles wide by 40 broad. The small lake Nijapa presents some marked peculiarities; the specific gravity of its water is 1.8, and it is hot to the taste, acrid, and smelling of sulphuretted hydrogen. It is of a light greenish-yellow colour, very thick and turbid, and on being kept some time deposits a black precipitate, consisting chiefly of iron. Some of the lakes are fathomless, and pure as crystal. 3. The last section consists of

the dividing ridge between the other two, attaining a maximum elevation of 5,000 feet. In this district gold and silver are found, and in its southern part lie the mines of Chontales. A dense, unbroken primeval forest covers the greater part of this region, containing a profusion of valuable timber trees, such as cedar, mahogany, sapota, leopard wood for cabinet-work, canilla (an easily-worked wood), venaca (a light sort of boxwood), &c. The Atlantic side is very humid—indeed, white residents jocularly remark that it rains thirteen months in the year; but it is not unhealthy, and the strong north east trade-winds temper the heat of the climate The Pacific coast region is contrasted with the opposite side by the sharp distinction between the wet and dry seasons, and the stunted growth of the trees. Gold was first discovered in 1850, and was worked in a rude manner near San Juan. It was not, however, till 1864 that political and other circumstances permitted of an accurate examination of the mining district by a party sent out from England, including Mr. W. C. Paul, a mining engineer. The exploration of the forest-clad district commenced at San Miguelito, near the western extremity of Lake Nicaragua. A narrow track leads hence, via Acoyapa, Lovogo and Libertad, to the mining district, which lies a little to the east of the watershed between the lakes and the At lantic, and near the river Mico, a branch of the Blewfields. The San Juan mine, close to the Mico, was examined, and found to be of rich promise, but the method of working it was very inefficient. Holes 25 feet deep were dug, and adits driven on each side of them until water was met with, which caused the abandonment of the excavation, although the lode becomes richer as depth is increased. Various excursions were made in the vicinity of Libertad, and the existence of valuable lodes of gold and silver satisfactorily established. The Indian village of Kinalala, at the head of the navigable waters of the Blewfields river, is the nearest point of embarkation direct for the Atlantic. The absence of a certain, speedy, and secure means of communication with the sea-coast is the only serious difficulty which mining enterprise will have to encounter in the development of these newly-discovered mineral resources of Nicaragua.

SATURDAY.
'On the Antiquity of Man,' by Mr. J. CRAW-FURD. — Considerations were adduced by the author of this paper in support of the view that the period embraced by architectural and other records of the most ancient nations forms but a small portion of the time that has elapsed since man's first appear-From the time in which he ance on the earth. acquired the skill to frame such records, we have to trace him back, over the many stages he had to pass through, up to the discovery of his remains in caves, and even of those of his handiwork in the most recent geological formation, the "drift." localities, moreover, which were favourable to the development of a people sufficiently advanced to produce enduring records of their existence are few in number. To trace man's existence up to its earliest date, we must, indeed, go beyond this, to the time when he was without speech, ignorant of every art, and, like the lower animals, chiefly guided by instinct.

'On the Coasts of Vancouver's Island, British Columbia, and Russian America,' by Mr. P. N. COMPTON. - The author described the physical outlines of the coast-region of these countries, visited by him during eight years' service in the Hudson's Bay Company, at Vancouver's Island. The most marked between the straits of De Fuca and the fifty-ninth parallel of latitude, is the numerous long inlets in the rocky, precipitous coasts. They run generally in a north-easterly direction, and vary in length from thirty to seventy miles. scenery in most of these inlets is grand in the extreme: every few miles cascades of water leap down the lofty, rocky sides, proceeding from the melting snows of the peaks that tower up a short distance in the interior. An enumeration of these inlets was given, together with a more detailed description of several of them. It is a curious feature that none of the large rivers of these countries discharge themselves into these deep inlets. Lynn's canal, in Russian America, has large

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glaciers in its valleys, extending to the sea-shore, from which they are separated sometimes only by a belt of trees. The climate here is very severe and the author has seen, in the month of May, four feet of snow close to the sea-level. The inlet is one of the longest on the coast, extending inland about seventy miles; but it averages only about two miles in width. The climate of Russian Ameica is extremely severe. It is doubtful if any crop but potatoes could be raised on its poor soil; and the amount of available land is very limited.

'On the Colony of New Scotland, in Southern Africa,' by Mr. J. J. PRATT.—This was a descrip tion of an elevated district on the eastern slope of the Drakensberg mountains, north of Natal, which has lately been opened for European immigration by the Government of the Trans-Vaal Republic. The climate was described to be good,

Republic. The chmate was described to be good, and the land suitable for pastoral purposes.

'On the Complexion, Hair, and Eyes as Tests of the Races of Man,' by Mr. J. CRAWFURD.—In this paper the author adduced facts to show that the hypothesis of climate being the cause of colour in the human complexion was entirely erroneous, and concluded that the phenomenon was one of the inscrutable mysteries of Nature which we cannot golve. He mentioned, amongst others, the case of the Red Man of America and its islands, who is, with some mere shades of difference, essentially of the same copper colour from Tierra del Fuego to the confines of the Esquimaux, and from the shores of the Atlantic to those of the Pacific. The skin, hair, and eyes, taken either separately or conjointly, formed but a very inadequate and ambiguous test of the races of man, seeing that among of them are, in reality, common to several maces in all other respects widely different.

'On the supposed Aborigines of India, as distinguished from its Civilized Inhabitants,' by Mr.

J CRAWFURD.

On some Changes of Surface affecting Ancient Ethnography,' by Mr. H. H. HOWARTH.

STOTION F - ECONOMIC SCIENCE AND STATISTICS.

FRIDAY. On the Condition and Progress of Scotland in relation to England and Ireland, in Population, relation to England and Ireland, in Population, Education, Wealth, Taxation, Crime, Consumption of Spirita, Savings Banks, &c., 'by Prof. Leone Levi.—Mr. Levi came to the following results:—1. That as regards population, Scotland and Ireland are increasing at a much slower rate than England, the effect rather of a lower rate of marriages and an excess of emigration than a larger mortality.

2. That in education Scotland stands in a higher position than England and Ireland. 3. That property is increasing faster in Scotland than in England and Ireland, the thriftiness and industry of the people being made manifest in a larger accumulation of wealth-between 1814-15 and 1864-5 the amount charged to income-tax having increased in England at the rate of 128 per cent, and in Scotland at the rate of 153 per cent. Between 1857 and 1865 the amount so charged increased in England at the rate of 31 per cent., in Scotland in England at the rate of 31 per cent., in Scotland at the rate of 33 per cent., and in Ireland at the rate of 12\(\frac{1}{2}\) per cent. 4. That as regards taxation, Scotland pays a larger proportion of revenue now than at any former period relatively to England and Ireland. In 1864-6 the proportion borne was 78'8 percent. by England, 11'9 percent. by Scotland, and 9'3 per cent. by Ireland, against 83'1 per cent. in England, 8'8 per cent. in Scotland, and 8'11 percent. by Ireland in 1830-2'5. That in so far per cent. by Ireland in 1830-2. 5. That in so far as the relative amount contributed to the revenue can serve as a criterion for the respective number of members in the houses of legislature, it appears that the altered proportion in the taxation borne by Scotland since the Union entitles her to a larger representation than she possesses, whilst in proportion to revenue the relative number of members should be 51.9 England and Wales, 78 Scotland, and 61 Ireland. 6. That as regards pauperism, the number of persons receiving public relief in Scotland. land is less in proportion than in England, though much in excess of Ireland; a great difference existing in the proportions of paupers relieved in-door and out-door in the three countries. In in-door and out-door in the three countries. In the existing ones. 2. That for this purpose the should agree as to the same unit in the issue of the number of paupers in England was in the

proportion of 4.38 per cent., Scotland 4.01 per cent., and in Ireland 0.94 per cent. of the population. In England and Ireland, about 85 per cent. of the papers were relieved in door—in Scotland, of the paupers were relieved in door—in Scotland, only 5-76 per cent. 7. That the number of persons committed for trial for indictable offences in Scotland is greater in proportion than in England and Ireland, and though she shows less propensity to offences against property, she stands in an unfavourable position as to offences against the person. In ten years, 1857-66, the average number of persons committed was—in England, 0.938 per 1,000; in Scotland, 1.11 per 1,000; and in Ireland, 0.990 per 1,000 of the population. The offences against per 1,000 of the population. The offences against the person were—in England, 12·10 per cent.; in Scotland, 29·43 per cent.; and in Ireland, 37·31 per cent. The offences against property without violence were—in England, 74 per cent.; in Scotland, 48 per cent.; and in Ireland, 34 per cent. 8. That the common assumption that Scotland consumes more spirits than England is unfounded, when the quantity of spirits in all spirituous beverages consumed is taken into account; but though we may congratulate ourselves on the diminished conmay congratulate ourselves on the diminished con-sumption of gin and whisky, there is reason for warning in the fact that such diminution is more than counterbalanced by the greater quantity of spirits consumed in the other beverages, principally ale and wine. In 1866, the total quantity of spirits consumed in gin and whisky, brandy, beer, wine, cider, &c., was in the proportion of 4:487 gallons per head in England, 2:984 gallons per head in Scotland, and 1:631 gallon per head in Ireland. Of British and foreign spirits, there were consumed, in England, 0.864 gallon; in Scotland, 1.847 gallon; and in Ireland 0.857 gallon per head. Of spirits in beer, 3.393 gallons per head in England, 1.050 gallon per head in Scotland, and 0.710 gallon per head in Ireland. Between 1857 and 1.866, there was an increase in the consumption of spirits of 12½ per cent. in England, 23 per cent. in Scotland, and 8 per cent. in Ireland. 9. That during the last ten years the change in the habits of the people as regards the consumption of spirituous beverages was as follows :-

England. Scotland. Spirits Per cent. Per cent. 1857. 1866. 1857. 1866. Per cent. 1857, 1866 Spirits in beer ... Spirits in wine ... Wine.... 21 20 ... 77 76 76 ... 21 3 4 ... 2 62 68 85 30 3 2 44 100 100 100 100 100 100

10. That in so far as the savings of the working classes are represented in the capital deposited in classes are represented in the capital deposited in the Savings Banks, the amount per head in Scot-land was 18s. 5d., in England 37s. 5d., and in Ireland 6s. 5d. per head. 11. That the passenger traffic on the British railways in 1865 was in the proportion of 23,400 per mile in England, 10,000 in Scotland, and 7,200 in Ireland—the proportion in Scotland, and 7,200 in Treland—the proportion travelling by third-class being 76.41 per cent. in Scotland, 58.66 per cent. in England, and 56.86 per cent. in Ireland. 12. That the number of letters delivered was in the proportion of 28 per head in England, 21 per head in Scotland, and 10 per head in Ireland—or in the proportion of 47, 36, and 17 per cent. respectively. 13. That as a whole, Scotland appears to be advancing rapidly, her position in the United Kingdom being of considerable importance; whilst, if we add that in proportion to the number of her people she has contributed, and does contribute, a large share of eminent statesmen, lawyers, military officers, men of science, and merchant princes, we cannot resist the conclusion that the Scotch possess in a high degree that energy of character, persistency of will, and boldness in action which have rendered Britain supreme among the nations of the world.

'Report of the Committee on the Uniformity of Weights, Measures and Coins (so far as it relates to Coins).'—At the official international Monetary Conference, it was unanimously agreed :- 1. That the monetary unification may more easily be realized by the mutual co-ordination of the existing systems, taking into account the scientific advan-tages of certain types, and the number of people who have already adopted them, than by the

system agreed upon by the Monetary Convention of 1865 should be taken principally into consideration, subject to any improvement of which it may be capable. It was agreed by all, except the representatives from the Netherlands,—3. That it is not possible to attain such identity, or even a partial coincidence, in such monetary types on an extended area, on the basis and on condition of the exclusive adoption of a silver standard, but that it is possible to attain it on the basis of a gold standard, allowing each state to preserve the silver standard in a transitory manner. It was agreed by all, except the repsesentatives of Prussia and the United States,—4. That the advantage of internationality which the coinage taken for common standard would possess, is not itself a sufficient guarantee for its being maintained in circulation in all the States, but that it is necessary to stipulate that in the countries which continue to use the silver standard only, and in those which use the silver standard only, and in those which have a double standard, the relation between gold and silver should not be established on too low a footing, in order to give due facility for the practical introduction of the gold coinage. It was unanimously agreed,—5. That for the success of the monetary unification, it is necessary to fix types having a common denominator for the weight of the gold coin, with an identical fineness of nine-tenths fine. It was agreed by a majority of thirteen votes against two—the representatives of England and Sweden having voted against, and those of Russia, Bavaria, Baden, Wurtemburg, and Belgium abstained from voting,-6. That the common denominator should be the piece of five francs. It was unanimously agreed,—7. That the gold coin, or the common denominator of five francs, should have legal course denominator of five francs, should have legal course in all the States which are mutually bound by the Monetary Convention. It was agreed by all, except the representatives of Prussia, Baden, and Wurtemburg, who abstained from voting,—S. That it would be useful that the types of coinage, determined by the Monetary Convention of the 23rd of December, 1865, should be, in the interest of unification, and consequently of reciprocity, completed by new types, as, for example, one of twenty-five francs. But for the proposal that a piece of fifteen francs be also added, the representatives of seven countries voted in favour, those of seven countries voted against, and those of six, including Great Britain, abstained. It was unanimously agreed,—9. The Conference expresses the wish that the measures which may be adopted by the Governments of the different States, in order to modify their respective monetary systems in accordance with the basis indicated by the Conference, should be made as much as possible the subjects of diplomatic conventions. 10. That soon after the reception of the answers, which may be given by the different States to the official communication which will be made to them of the labours of the Conference by the French Government, that Government may, if necessary, call another Conference. But as to the time by which such answers should be given, the representatives of ten countries voted that it be given before the 15th of February proximo; those of five voted that it be given before the 1st of October, 1867; those of the United States voted for the 15th of May, 1868; and those of Great Britain for the 1st of June, 1868. The representatives of France and Spain abstained from voting. The resolutions of semi-official conference are as follows:-" Whereas the adoption of a uniform system of coinage would present evident advantages as regards convenience and economy in the settlement of international exchange, and recommends itself to the attention of all enlightened governments,—whereas, on the other hand, such a desideratum cannot be realized unless several nations are prepared to sacrifice their old and habitual instruments of traffic, whilst it is important that the change may be effected in a gradual and continuous manner, and that the mode of effecting this change should be as simple as possible, and free from all incidental complias possible, and free from an intenest confectation,—the Committee proposes as follows:—

1. It is necessary, in the first instance, that the different Governments interested in this question should agree as to the same unit in the issue of be everywhere coined of the same fineness of nine-3. It is desirable that each Governtenths fine. ment should introduce, among its gold coins, one piece at least of a value equal to that of one of the pieces in use among the other Governments interested, so that there may be among all the systems a point of common contact, from which each nation may afterwards advance in gradually assimilating its system of coinage to that which may be chosen as a uniform basis. 4. The series of gold coins now in use in France being adopted by a great part of the population of Europe, is recommended as a basis of the uniform system. 5. Whereas, in consequence of accidental and happy circumstances the most important monetary units may be adapted to the piece of five francs in gold by means of very small changes, this piece seems the most convenient to serve as a basis of a monetary system; and the coins issued upon such a basis may become, as soon as the convenience of the nations interested permit, multiples of this unit. 6. It is desirable that the different Governments should decide that the coins issued by each nation in conformity with the uniform system proposed and agreed should have legal currency in all other countries. 7. It is desirable that the system of double standards be abandoned wherever it yet exists; that the system of decimal numeration be universally adopted; and that the money of all nations be of the same fineness and the same form. 8. It is desirable that the Governments should come to an understanding for adopting common measures of control, so as to guarantee the integrity of the coinage both when issued and whilst in circulation." ssued and whilst in circulation.

'On the various Methods in which our Coinage may be Decimalized; the Advantages and Disadvantages of each,' by Mr. F. P. Fellowes.

'On the Prevalence of Spedalske, or Leprosy, in the Kingdom of Norway,' by Mr. H. J. KER

SECTION G .- MECHANICAL SCIENCE.

FRIDAY.

'On Reaping Machinery,' by the Rev. P. Bell.

-After giving an account of the modes of reaping corn in use from the earliest times, pointing out how little alteration had been made in them down to modern days, the author narrated the circumstances under which he had been led to give his attention to the subject, and ultimately to succeed in constructing, in the year 1828, a reaping-machine, which, although it did not then come into general use, was efficient for the purpose, and which, in fact, was, with scarcely any alteration, the reaping-machine of the present day.

'On the Theory of Diagrams and Forces as applied to Roofs and Bridges,' by Dr. J. C. MAX-WELL.—A roof is made up of a series of vertical powers. A diagram of forces is a figure consisting of straight lines, which represent, both in magnitude and direction, the sections and pressures in the different pieces between the joints of the frame. The pieces of the frame and the weights acting on it are denoted by capital letters, and the corresponding lines of the diagram by small letters. The diagram is constructed by the following rule, which is sufficient for the purpose:—The frame, including the vertical lines representing the weights, and the diagrams of forces, are reciprocal figures, such that every line in the one is parallel to the corresponding line in the other, and every set of lines which meet in a point in the one figure form a closed figure in the other. It follows from this that the weights, which are all vertical forces, are represented by the parts of one vertical line. The first extension of the principle of the diagram of forces was made by Dr. Rankine in his 'Applied Mecha-nics.' The theory was generalized by the author in the Philosophical Magazine in April, 1864. In the present paper it is shown to be connected with the theory of reciprocal polars in solid geometry, and rules for the construction of diagrams are given. The advantage of the method is that its construction requires only a parallel ruler, and that every force is represented to the eye at once by a separate line, which may be measured with sufficient accuracy for all purposes with less trouble than the forces can be found by calculation. It

also affords security against error, as if any mistake is made the diagram cannot be completed.

Prof. RANKINE said that in the investigation to which Prof. C. Maxwell had done him the honour to refer, he had shown how to solve, by the construction of reciprocal diagrams, all questions of the equilibrium and stress of polygonal frames without bracing, and also, by special methods, of polygonal frames with bracing of the simpler kinds. The step in advance made by Prof. C. Maxwell consisted of extending and generalizing a method founded on the same principles, so as to apply it, according to a uniform system, to the most complicated example of bracing. That method, he was confident, would be found very useful to engineers. Some other authors, whose names he did not at the moment remember, had made improvements on his own method; but none of them had advanced so far as Prof. C. Maxwell.

'On the Stowage of Ships' Boats,' by Mr. G. FAWCUS.—This plan is to pack groups of boats of smaller size within groups of larger boats. Three groups of each, of three square-sterned boats, can be packed together, the heights of the inner groups not exceeding the height of the largest outside group; and thus nine boats can be placed in the space now required for a single boat. The dimenspace now required for a single boat. sions of the group are such that the taffrail of the next smaller group meets the thwart of the sternsheets of the next larger one, and the stem-head of the former also compactly fits into the thwart with the mast-step groove of the latter. The foremost of the after-thwarts or seats of the upper or inside boats of each outer group form stays or stretchers to support their own group, and to steady the adjoining one.

'On Covered Lifeboats,' by Mr. G. MAW.-The author proposed a light boat-shaped iron caisson, perfectly covered, except a man-hole for access. which would be water-tight when closed, and two openings for ventilation, with a self-acting valvular arrangement, by which water would be perfectly excluded during the occasional breaking of a wave whilst allowing a free passage of air when not

On the Construction of the Lifeboat,' by Prof. MACDONALD.—Instead of the common form of the boat, with a sharp keel, the author suggested the more ample and expanded form of the head of the whale, but rising high out of the water at the bow, having bluff sides, but ending in a long clean run aft, narrowing towards the stern, where the moving paddle-wheels or Archimedean screw should be placed.

On the Heating of Hothouses,' by Mr. J. HALLIDAY.

'On the Consumption of Fuel,' by Mr. W. PATERSON.

Dr. J. D. EVERETT read a paper giving 'The Results of Experiments on the Rigidity of Glass, Brass and Steel.'—The author described the ingenious arrangements by which the experiments were carried on, and the minute deflections measured. Cylindrical rods, about one-third of an inch in diameter, of flint glass, drawn brass and steel, were alternately bent and twisted by known couples, so applied that the couple (whether of flexure or tension) was always uniform through the whole length of the rod. The amounts of bending and twisting thus produced in a given portion of the rod were measured by the aid of two mirrors clamped to the rod. In the earlier experiments, these mirrors were made to reflect a dark line placed in front of a lamp flame, and the displacements of the images were measured on a screen. In the later experiments, two telescopes were placed almost vertically over the two mirrors, so as to look down into them, and a sheet of paper (cross ruled) was fixed in a horizontal position overhead. The displacements of the lines on this sheet as seen in the telescopes were then observed. From the measurements of flexure and tension thus obtained, the co-efficients of elasticity and rigidity for the substances operated on were calculated.

FINE ARTS

FINE-ART GOSSIP.

As, instead of diminishing, the practice of cramming Westminster Abbey with monuments increases considerably beyond the average of late years, we cannot but suppose that the remonstrances of all who love Art are to be attended to by the erection of a new and fitter sculpture-gallery or Walhalla than St. Peter's Church. The sooner this happens the better, especially if the modern intrusive sculptures are removed to the muchintrusive sculptures are removed to the much talked-of new building; for the barbarous practice of sticking busts on brackets against the piers has, as in the case of Thackeray's memorial, lately been returned to; and one knows not what mischief may next be done in default of space to let. Public decency is not now to be outraged by the destruc-tion of old memorials to make way for new ones; nevertheless, an ancient church may be stuffed with unsuitable monuments until it resembles a stonemason's shop, and nobody seems to heed. We suppose the architect is powerless in these cases. It is impossible to conceive that Mr. Scott can, otherwise than by a forced passiveness, sanction the bad custom. Here is a curious passage from one of Walpole's Letters to Conway, August 5th, 1761, showing what was once thought of the practice of letting standings in the Abbey; also, what a narrow escape had one of the finest monuments in England; who it was that saved it, but could not save Sir Francis Vere's monument from obscuration by the Wolfe cenotaph :- "I will give you one instance that will sum up the vanity of great men, learned men, and buildings altogether. I heard lately that Dr. Pearce, a very learned personage, had consented to let the tomb of Aylmer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, a very great personage, be removed for Wolfe's monument; that first he had objected, but was wrought upon by being told that hight Aylmer was a Knight Tem-(one of) a very wicked set of people, as his Lordship had heard, though he knew nothing of them, as they are not mentioned by Longinus. own I thought this a made story, and wrote to his Lordship expressing my concern that one of the finest and most ancient monuments in the Abbey should be removed, and begging, if it was re moved, that he would bestow it on me, who could erect and preserve it here (at Strawberry Hill). After a fortnight's deliberation, the bishop sent me an answer,-civil, indeed, and commending my zeal for antiquity!-but avowing the story under his own hand. He said that at first they had taken Pembroke's tomb for a Knight Templar's. Observe, that not only the man who shows the tombs names it every day, but that there is a draught of it at large in Dart's 'Westminster'; that, upon discovering whose it was, he had been very unwilling to consent to the removal, and at last had obliged Wilton (the sculptor of Wolfe's monument) to engage to set it up within ten feet of where it stands at present. His Lordship concluded with congratulating me on publishing learned authors at my press (at Strawberry Hill). I don't wonder that a man who thinks Lucan (a text Walpole had that a man who thinks Lucan (a text Walpole had issued) a learned author, should mistake a tomb in his own cathedral. If I had a mind to be angry, I should complain with reason; as, having paid 40l. for ground for my mother's tomb" (a statue, rendered by Vallory from the 'Livia' or 'Pudicitia' in the Villa Mattei, Rome, which now stands, or lately stood, in the south aisle of Heavy the Seventh's Chang! Westprington Abbon! Henry the Seventh's Chapel, Westminster Abbey); "that the Chapter of Westminster sell their church over and over again; the ancient monuments tumble upon one's head through their neglect, as one of them did, and killed a man at Lady Elizabeth Percy's funeral; and they erect new waxen dolls of Queen Elizabeth, &c., to draw visits and money from the mob."-The Dr. Pearce here mentioned was Bishop of Rochester and Dean of Westminster, who, when Fellow of Trinity Dean of Westmaster, who, when reliew of trinity College, Cambridge, edited Longinus 'De Sublimitate' and also Cicero 'De Oratore' and 'De Officiis,' and was author of 'A Commentary on the Evangelists, Acts,' &c. His ignorance of the church committed to his charge may be guessed from th that the in time yet, as l Westmi Aylmer This DI Holbor distingu the Cic the no then t was for Martin parish of Wes Roche lation. Lucan Latin critic. we sh agains his like our ch Nation He wi which ignore into h A nart o Churc Roms are i Norm Gloud there entire Lady (1472 prese crypt effigy of St A erect befor

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from the statement of Walpole, and knowledge that the letter-writer's "lately" could not be far in time from 1761, the year in which he wrote; yet, as Dr. Zachary Pearce was appointed Dean of Westminster in 1739, he had thus had charge of Aylmer's monument for about twenty-one years. This precious custodian was son of a distiller in Holborn, and, by the publications above named, distinguished himself as a Latinist; a dedication of the Cicero to Lord Chancellor Parker procured him the notice of that personage. After this, being then twenty-seven years of age, he took holy orders, and, by woolsack influence in the first case, was forced on in the Church to be vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields - in the church of which parish he preached the opening sermon; Dean of Westminster, Bishop of Bangor and Bishop of Rochester, retaining the fat Deanery at each translation. Walpole's inference that the Dean thought Lucan a "learned writer" because he wrote in Latin is one of his keen shafts. Walpole, as a critic, has been freely abused and sneered at; but we should remember that he did good service against the barbarians in his time. Would we had his like now, to save our cathedrals from scraping, our churches and old tombs from "restoration There was a portrait of this Dean at the late National Portrait Exhibition, by Hudson, No. 334. He wrote also 'An Essay on the Origin and Progress of Temples,' with special reference to that which Solomon built; and, as we have seen, ignored the temple at Westminster that was given

A Correspondent of a contemporary writes that part of the current restoration of Romsey Abbey Church consists of fixing to the roof a series of papier-maché bosses, the work of the Vicar of Romsey. These things are painted!

The Earl of Ellenborough has undertaken, we are informed, to restore the ancient, originally Norman, northern apsidal Chapel of St. Paul in Gloucester Cathedral. It will be remembered that there were primarily three of these chapels at the east end of this church; the central one was almost entirely removed to make way for the existing Lady Chapel, a beautiful Perpendicular structure (1472-1498). The remains of this original eastern building appear, above ground, in the walls of the present vestibule to the Lady Chapel. In the crypt the eastern chapel is entire. The wooden effigy of Robert Courtehose remains in the Chapel of St. Paul.

A statue to David Teniers has recently been erected at Antwerp; thereby, still more than before, signalizing the Art-energy of that ancient city.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

LYCEUM.—On Monday, Mr. Fechter inaugurated a new performance of 'The Lady of Lyons,' evidently intended to instruct English actors in the true art of acting the English drama. To a considerable extent, Mr. Fechter's notions are undoubtedly right, and his conception of the character of Claude Melnotte is well thought out and carefully enacted. His pronunciation of Bulwer's verses presents the text not only intelligently, but emphatically, and sometimes his reading brings out abeauty not previously perceived. But there is many an admirer of the play who will protest against the alterations that have been made in it, in order to suit Mr. Fechter's ideas of dramatic structure. He removes the first scene, apparently considering that the situation is sufficiently explained by the conversation between Beauseant and Glavis afterwards, and the events that take place in the Melnotte cottage. Dr. Johnson, in like manner and for similar reasons, thought that the first act of 'Othello' was superfluous, and that, with two or three explanatory speeches, the tragedy might commence with the Moor's arrival at Cyprus. Shakspearean critics, however, differed from Dr. Johnson, and so the tragedy has continued to be performed in its integrity. It was felt that the portion of the story contained in the first act was better shown in action than in description, and that we obtained a truer idea of Othello and Desdemona by witnessing their conduct before the into passion and true eloquence.

Sagittary than if we had only been told of the affair in general terms. Now, the first scene of 'The Lady of Lyons' had precisely the same merit; it possessed us of the specific characters of Pauline and her mother, and showed in action the sort of conduct which provoked the severe retaliation and its consequences that form the subject of the play. No doubt, the omission has the effect of giving extra relief to the part of Claude Melnotte, but that of Pauline proportionably suffers. We regret this the more as the play advances, for Miss Carlotta Leclercq evinced a remarkable power for representing the character in a manner equally natural and forcible. The play is strongly cast; Miss Elsworthy sustains the Widow Melnotte with praiseworthy attention to details usually overlooked, and Mrs. Marston has been expressly engaged for Madame Deschappelles. Mr. Jordan took great pains with the ungrateful character of Beauseant, and Mr. Addison's impersonation of Damas was decidedly good. We cannot close, however, without noticing the alteration made in the last scene of the first, where, instead of Beau-seant's sending a letter, as in the original copy, he comes himself, and tempts the passionate young man into the snare by a sort of personal fascination which is not without its theatrical advantage. In regard to the mise-en-scène, this revival is altogether admirable. The introduction of seats into the garden-scene and the well-furnished drawing-room and conservatory in the last act, together with the stage business relative to the final interview between Claude and Pauline, are decided improvements. On the whole, notwithstanding all draw-backs, the performance is likely to be serviceable to the cause of histrionic art, and ought to furnish hints by which inferior actors should benefit.

SURREY.—The opening of this theatre on Saturday was distinguished by the production of a new drama, written by Mr. Watts Phillips, entitled 'Nobody's Child.' It is put on the stage, with some really magnificent scenery by the Messrs. Callcotts; and each act ends with a tableau, the effect of which is much assisted by the scenery. The drama itself is an elaborate and complicated affair, in which all the incidents lead up to a sensational situation, of which Joe, a stray waif of the ocean, is the hero. Cast on shore from a stormy sea, he is Nobody's Child, and has been treated by all as an idiot. But one Patty, a villanous postmaster's daughter, perceives his merits, and by the influence of her love makes him conscious of possessing extraordinary intelligence and heroism.
The character, however, is not distinctly drawn, and speaks from the beginning in too refined a style. But Mr. Creswick, by his judicious acting, contrived to throw in the requisite contrasts; and, indeed, makes so decided a feature of the part, that his performance alone may suffice to ensure its popularity. Mr. Vollaire also has a strong part, as the father of Patty. He is an old man of vin-dictive feelings, who, from having suffered in his youth, has spent his life in compassing his revenge on the owners of the Tregarvon estate, by purchasing all their mortgages. He is anxious, besides, to possess himself of the will of Lucy Tregarvon's uncle, which in some way overrides all his transactions; but he is circumvented at every turn, by the sagacity of the poor outcast Joe, who encounters all manner of perils. Finally, he struggles with a roue, Capt. Lazonby, who would force himself on Lucy Tregarvon as her husband, and is ultimately thrown out of the turret window by the despised foundling. On other points so much obscurity exists that it would be dangerous to detail the plot further. The characters were well sustained. Mr. Vollaire, as the malignant postmaster, was powerful, and Mr. Edgar, as the profligate captain, judicious. Patty and Lucy were respectively sustained by Miss Pauncefort and Miss Roberts. To their laudable exertions, and the beautiful scenery, the success of the drama must be attributed. It is to be regretted that the author or the management had not proposed a higher aim in the theme and treatment of the new drama; but whatever may be the defects of its subject or structure, the dialogue is carefully written, and sometimes rises

SADLER'S WELLS.—The regular season commenced on Saturday, with the revival of Mr. Fitzball's spectacular drama of 'Azael; or, the Prodigal,' originally produced under Mr. James Anderson's management at Drury Lane. Messrs. Gowrie & Norman have provided some excellent scenery in illustration of the action, and Mr. H. Gates has painted a new act-drop, which gave satisfaction to the audience. Mr. Loraine, who has commended himself to the London public by his late performance of Marc Antony, sustained the part of Reuben, the father of Azael, originally performed by Mr. Vandenhoff; and Miss Marriott herself personated the prodigal youth, formerly enacted by Mr. J. Anderson. Miss Leigh gracefully supported the character of Jephthele, the beloved of Azael, and the remaining parts were all respectably filled by Mr. J. L. Warner, Mr. H. Chester and Mr. G. Fisher. The play was preceded by a new farce, entitled 'Change of Name,' written by Mr. Arthur Moore, who also performed a part in it, and, with Mr. Walter Serle, contrived to make its humour, which is rather peculiar, intelligible to the audience.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.

The good Crystal Palace Concerts will commence to-day. The advertisement of the music to be given during the season promises, among other matters, Mendelssohn's 'Reformation Symphony,' which has been only once performed; 'Die Verschwören,' an operetta by Schubert; the music to the same master's 'Rosamunde'; and his symphonies—Handel's Ode for St. Cecilia's Day, Beethoven's Choral Symphony, Schumann's 'Paradise and the Peri,' which is (mercifully) to be abridged; Mendelssohn's 'Midsummer Night's Dream' music, and Beethoven's 'Egmont' music.

It is said that the Ancient Concerts are about to be revived under the old circumstances of aristocratic patronage, and, it is added, possible amateur assistance. Herr Schachner has been named as conductor. We fail to see much promise in this scheme.

Mr. J. F. Barnett's 'Ancient Mariner' is to be given at a Liverpool Philharmonic Concert on the 24th.

Concerts draw company to the Agricultural Hall, little fitted as the locality might be thought for musical performances. Something of a special nature has been lately produced in the form of national choral concerts, accompanied by a band of a dozen harps.

of a dozen harps.

Not long ago, the tantalizing apparition of Herr Henselt in London was mentioned here. One among the few who heard the great pianist play, and on whose musical intelligence every reliance may be placed, has obliged us with the following notes on the performance:—"In the first place," our friend writes, "the almost improvised nature of it was remarkable. Herr Henselt played for nearly two hours without book, without programme, and without rest. What he played included the E major Polonaise, and 'Concert Stück,' and the last movement of the A flat Sonata by Weber (the first two elaborated by himself) [after the fashion of the Abbé Liszt—Ed]. The B flat minor Scherzo, the Notturni in n flat, o minor and B major, by Chopin, 'Warum' and 'Des Abends,' from the Phantasie Stücke of Schumann, one of the 'Rhapsodies Hongroises,' by the Abbé Liszt, and many pieces of his own composition, among which were the 'Danklied nach einem Sturm' [a most noble study—Ed.], 'Liebeslied,' 'La Fontaine,' 'Frühlingslied,' the 'Gondola,' Petite Valse, and the Romance followed by the 'Si oiseau j'étais' study, which he has put together so as to form a concert-piece. This he also repeated. His playing was splendid; excellent as a specimen of the legato style, yet rising to the greatest possible power when power was required; his execution invariably faultless. His reading, charming in expression and pure in taste, reminded me of Chopin, although superior as employing every resource of his instrument when power should be displayed. Herr Henselt talks of coming again in July next."

The Abbé Liszt's oratorio on the legend of St. Elizabeth was duly performed the other day on the Wartburg. Its success is spoken of doubtfully, save by those who are sufficiently fascinated by his personality to accept his efforts at composition as

achievements.

The following is the programme of the musical festival held at Meiningen on the 22nd of August and the following days:—Overture to 'Wallenstein,' festival held at Meiningen on the 22nd of August and the following days:—Overture to 'Wallenstein,' by Herr Büchner,—'Nirwana,' on an Indian subject, a symphonic work, by Herr von Bulow,—'Sappho,' a seene for a soprano, by Herr Wolkmann,—a suite of pieces for the violoncello by Bach, played by Herr Grutzmacher,—a scene for soprano and tenor, from the opera 'King Sigurd,' by Herr Dräseke,-a symphony by Herr Lassen The second concert was a serious one, thus made up:—'Alla Trinità beata,'—a "Kyrie," by Palestrina,—a bass aria from Clari's 'Stabat Mater,' the Adagio from Beethoven's Violin Concerto, played by Herr Kompel,—'Sacrificium Deo,' from a Miserere by Fabio,—'Media Nocte,' by Perez,—a Choral by Bach,—an Anthem by Prætorius,—the 23rd Psalm and the 'Beatitudes,' by the Abbe Liszt. The programme of the third, or artists' secular concert, ran as follows:—Pianoforte Trio, by Herr Ferdinand Präger,—Helge's 'Treue,' a ballad for a baritone, by Herr Dräseke,—a Sonata ballad for a baritone, by Herr Draseae, for viola di gamba and pianoforte, by Bach,— 'Spanisches Liederspiel,' a series of nine songs, by 'Spanisches Liederspiel,' awith variations, "Inter-Schumann, — Andante, with variations, "Intermezzo and Fugato," for two pianofortes, by Herr Deprosse,—two songs by Herr Damrosch,—duetts by Herr Cornelius,—Sixth Sonata for violin and pianoforte, by Leclair,—songs by Herr Schild, pianoforte, by Leclair,—songs by Herr Schule,— two instrumental legends (one, St. Francis of Assisi preaching to the Birds), by the Abbé Liszt,—four songs by Herr Lassen. Programme of the fourth concert:—Overture to 'Timon of Athens,' by Herr Mihalovich,—'La Captive' (Romance), by M. Berlioz,—Pianoforte Concerto by Herr Kiel,
—duett from 'Beatrice and Benedick,' by M. — duett from 'Beatrice and Benedick,' by M. Berlicz,—Beethoven's Triple Concerto,—symphonic poem, 'Ce qu'on entend sur la montagne,' by the Abbé Liszt, this accompanied by an elaborate illustrated analysis,—'The Three Gipsies,' a song by the same composer,—'Lovo Scene" and "Ball' from the 'Romeo' Symphony, by M. Berlicz,—No leak of enterprise if not of poyelty in the above lack of enterprise, if not of novelty, in the above list it must be owned!

There is not now a more valuable musician in Europe than Herr Hauptmann, the Principal of the Leipzig Music-School. There is not a professor who has done more in forming and restraining young men of all countries, who have profited by his counsels. Thus it was well done the other day, that what may be called a silver-wedding cele-bration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his connexion with Leipzig was celebrated in the

cordial German fashion.

Madame Lucca, we read, intends to sing the part of Mignon in the opera of M. Thomas, when it is

produced at Berlin.

The real success of Mdlle. Christine Nilsson at the late Birmingham Festival was sure to re-act on her position in Paris, contemptuous as the French habitually are on all that passes in Art beyond the octroi of their capital. There is no end of the wonders preparing and promised for her in the coming 'Hamlet' of M. Ambroise Thomas. Assuredly, no one, save Mdlle. Jenny Lind (the Ophelia of Opheif only the composer had been at hand), is so well fitted by nature and by nationality to present the lady

-of ladies most deject and wretched,

as this young singer. Among other rumours is one to the effect that Ophelia's death is to be literally presented, and that she is to float down the stage in a current of real water (as in the picture of Mr. Millais), with her flowers round her, singing her death-song. There may be something too much of coarse, stagey, tangible false picturesque in any such arrangement as this. It is to be hoped that M. Thomas will prove equal to the beauty of the scene. For the sake of good music every one would gladly dispense with all the trucs (as the French have it) and devices and desires which, when they are the best wrought out, the most completely show what the stage cannot do. It is to be hoped, yet more earnestly, that Mdlle. Nilsson will not rest satisearnestly, that Mdlle. Nilsson will not rest satisfied, however great has been her success. Her nevertheless, after having commenced her career

friends are her best friends who tell her that something remains for her to learn in her art. She ought to have a great, as distinct from a showy, future.— There seems to be no dearth of nightingales in the North. Certain foreign journals are whispering mysterious wonders concerning four transcendent Swedish sisters, who are now in Paris. May not the tale be among the marvels so prodigally invented at this time of year, when columns must be filled, and truths are not over and above numerous and interesting? Signor Verdi is again in Paris.

There has been a talk of reviving Signor Rossini's Tancredi' at the Italian opera-house in Paris; but the shrewd maestro, it is said, has requested that the plan may not be carried out,—and, in deference to his wishes, it has been abandoned. The opera is not one to carry off the incomplete singing of these days; and, indeed, is not among its writer's permanent works, rich though it be in beauties.

We are not habitually fond of arrangements, whatsoever be the temptation. There are excep-

tions, however; and one of these may be thought to present itself in Mr. Best's arrangement for the organ of Prof. Moscheles's 'Hommage à Handel' -a work which will bear such adaptation better than most pianoforte music.

The Gazette Musicale announces that Mr. Mapleson is about to found a French Opera in London, for the purpose of representing the burlesques of

Those who have read the biographical notices of Meyerbeer which have appeared may recollect the pompous boast of M. Henri Blaze de Bury, to the effect that the joint work concocted by them on an episode in Goethe's life is musically complete, and should appear at no distant period. Our contemporaries now state that permission for its performance has been denied by the master's survivors and executors, who are in testamentary possession of his views and intentions. It has been said by those familiar with the incomings and outgoings of one of the most politic of men, who ever up early and late took rest" to ensure a success, that he was in the habit of propitiating those "of our estate" by offering them liberal commissions our estate" by offering them liberal commissions for texts to be set. We can speak to one or two attempted transactions of the kind. The book of M. Blaze de Bury, in the resolute desire it showed to achieve notoriety for its author by stating the amount and quality of intercourse between the two men, and the determination just announced, recall tales which were current upon the Boulevard des Italiens as to what Meyerbeer would do next. While talking of matters behind the curtain, it may be recollected that there was once something like a chance of his writing an opera conjointly with that strange, ill-starred genius, Rouget de

Even cholera, with all its horrors (the word Even choiers, with all its norrors (the word is hardly strong enough to describe what has passed and is passing in Italy), has not altogether put out opera there. The last number of *Il Trovatore* mentions as novelties 'Ada Marescotti,' by Signor Sella, produced at Viterbo (dangerously near the head-quarters of the pestilence), and a new opera at Naples, 'Colpa e Castigo,' by Signor Parravano. In the same number is the name of a new opera by Signor Jursewicz, 'Pietro Calabrese,' produced at Odessa "with the utmost success."

Il Trovatore speaks "by the card" (seemingly) of the splendid preparations as to costume, &c., made by Madame Ristori for the production of the new drama on the story of Marie Antoinette, which she is to take to America. We have not forgotten the zeal, the resolution, to be correct to every point, shown by the noble and versatile tragedian, when, after having put forth all her powers of charm in Schiller's 'Maria Stuarda,' she set herself to prepare the still more marvellous impersonation, that of the haughty, abrupt, astute, grand Elizabeth of England.

Madame Meric - Lalande, who sang at Her Majesty's Theatre in the seasons of 1830 and 1831, and who (says Mr. H. F. Chorley's 'Musical Recollections') "gave little satisfaction," is dead. She was born at Dunkirk in 1798; received, as M. Fétis

as a light opera singer in France, proved strong enough to pass into Italy (and in those days the Italians knew what singing was, and cared for it accordingly), and to make an honoured and profit. able career as a prima donna in grand opera. She was the first singer in Meyerbeer's 'Crociato,' Neither in London nor in Paris did she succeed. The flimsy memoirs of Malibran, by Madame Merlin, record a sarcasm of the young Spanish genius, launched against the vibrating tone of the French lady, with whom she was about to sing a duett. But that there must have been reality in Madame Meric-Lalande's art and stage-talent is obvious. She did not enjoy a long life (as opera lives go). and was wise enough to retire when deficiency of power was felt by her public, and herself.

MISCELLANEA

Beltaine .- With reference to the papers on the subject of the Beltaine fires, which have recently appeared in the Atheneum, I crave permission to pot a question in your columns. I suppose it is possible that the Beltaine fires were in former days, lighted at the summits of the Irish round towers, though, as I gather, the theory is repudiated by that learned antiquary, Dr. Petrie. Now, assuming for one instant the plausibility of this assumption I wish to ask if any connexion can be establish between these round towers and the so-called High Places of Scripture, as serving a similar use? Can Eastern archeologists indicate clearly the form and structure of Scriptural High Places, or if any remains of them are now to be traced? The references in Scripture to the term High Places vary as to meaning throughout; but, where they specifically indicate a place for burning incense or offering sacrifice, the allusion is, I think, always to an idolatrous origin, as distinguished from Jehovah's altar. We see in 1 Kings, c. iii. v. 2, how, in the absence of a suitable house for the Lord, the people sacrificed to the Lord in heathen High Places already existent; in c. xii. v. 32, the sin is carried farther, for Jeroboam is the first Israelite actually to make these High Places for idolatrous worship No student of the sacred page can forget the awful denunciations so repeatedly hurled against "Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who first made Israel to sin." I suppose it is quite indisputable that the heathen God Belus, or Baal, from whom the word Beltaine is derived, was the object of this idolatrous worship in high places, which formed the crowning sin of Israel,—may there not, therefore, be some resemblance in the respective places of worship? and can we attribute to these *High* places an altitude and a structure at all resembling the Irish round towers? The word Beltaine, considered as indicating the form of worship to Baal in Ireland and England, has left considerable traces in our nomenclature; the nearest approach is in Beltinge, a hamlet in north-east Kent, the representative of an older and much larger place long since submerged. There is Beltingham, in Northumberland, which has, or had, a very old yew-tree. There are several Beltons and Biltons: I do not know that we can claim them for Baal. Baltimore, in Ireland, is said to be "the great house of Baal"; Baltinglas and Baltong may also be included. Balteagh might be the "field of Baal," which has its counterpart at Balasley, in Montgomeryshire. The hundreds of Ballas, Ballis, &c. we may not touch, as Bally is said to mean any inclosed dwelling, large or small. From Belus we have Bellingham, Billingham, and the common English patronymic Billing,—which I think would indicate originally any one employed about the worship of Baal; it might be deemed presumptuous for individuals otherwise to arrogate that name to themselves when the worship of that God was paramount. If any confirmation is found for this assumption, it will be difficult to resist the conclusion that the Canaanitish groves of Baal also have their counterpart in our Druidic groves. Several places may be pointed out having the name of grove in composition that show at the present day various remains indicating the greatest anti-

To Correspondents.—W. B.—A Wesleyan Methodist —J. S.—B. H. B.—E. C.—C. B. C.—J.—J. G.—C.—received.

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